

# SOCCER

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GST INCLUSIVE

## Bleiberg Says: 'Make It Simple'

**M**IRON BLEIBERG the highly experienced coach of State Champions Queensland Lions Soccer Club, has very strong thoughts regarding the formulation of the proposed new National Soccer League.

The astute Bleiberg is very well qualified as a professional to express his powerful serious thoughts having been involved on the Australian Soccer scene since 1984, having coached in the NSL the Melbourne Knights, Heidelberg United and the Brisbane Strikers, as well as having coaching stints in the respective State Leagues of Victoria and Queensland, including having won numerous championships plus Grand Final victories.

On top of all his above achievements and experiences, Bleiberg has a University degree

in Business Administration as well as in Marketing, which obviously makes him slightly more qualified to voice his opinion than the average coach.

According to Bleiberg the solution for the pending new league is very simple. The inclusion of teams should purely be determined by their financial strength of the franchise, as is the case in the American Leagues, (Baseball / Basketball etc).

Geographical location should not be a determining factor.

If there are two strong franchises from the same location, derby-style rivalry will attract much more crowds and much more media attention.

Financial strength only, will allow the League the ability to spend on marketing and pay players on a full and part time basis.

*By John Economos  
(Exclusive Interview)*

Bleiberg insisted that the newly proposed League cannot afford any failure, so as to not relinquish any surviving credibility that it has left.

Geographical location of any team must be considered as secondary.

The Queensland coach strongly suggested a marketing fee, (pool situation), must be established, fulltime payment for players (at least 10), part-time players at least 10 (student and fringe players) and an overall minimum annual budget of \$1.2million.

"The number of clubs should ideally be 16 which would therefore translate into 30 League games plus a Final Six Series

which would stretch the domestic Season to 10 months with a two month break," stated Bleiberg.

"The number of teams in the League should be flexible and only determined by the amount of strong franchises available".

As far as Summer or Winter Season is concerned, Bleiberg suggested the whole World of Soccer, (Europe and South America), agreed on a unified calendar thus allowing breaks for international fixtures.

"If Australia desires to join the International Soccer Community which would allow us practice games and the release of our Euro-based players back to our National team,

we must follow the same calendar which in this situation means Summer Soccer."

Bleiberg went on to add, "I emphatically believe in the concept of two teams from each city as the driven rivalry will increase crowd, media attention and force each respective team to strive to improve its performance."

"This formula works well globally such as in Liverpool, Manchester, Madrid, Milan, Rome etc."

"This line of thought also works extremely well within the sport of Aussie Rules such as in city centres, not only in Melbourne, but Perth and Adelaide."

"Australian Soccer history has shown that the best attended games in the NSL had been the Melbourne derbies (Heidelberg vs South Melbourne), in Adelaide, (Adelaide City vs West Adelaide), in Brisbane, (Brisbane City vs Brisbane Lions), and in Sydney, (Marconi vs Sydney Olympic, or Marconi vs A.P.I.A.)."

Bleiberg went on to underline to ABSW: "Financial strength of each member of the proposed new League must be the ultimate priority, above all other considerations such as geographical spread, demographics, historical track-record etc."

"A financially strong National League, with the correct marketing, (even if it demands buying television time until we regain our credibility), will attract quality players, healthy crowds and much greater media attention, all of which are what Australian Soccer desperately needs."

Queensland's most successful coach illustrated his point by



**Miron Bleiberg: League Champion winning coach.**

adding: "The best and most recent example of what I'm saying here, is the current Rugby Union World Cup now being staged throughout Australia."

"Here, and despite that most of the pool World Cup matches have been meaningless with almost predictable results, with strategically-wise, saturation marketing, have all contributed to create an overwhelming public interest."

"All this understandably, has translated into attracting huge crowds married with massive media coverage."

"Another prime example was the English League which in the mid-80s was virtually dying on its knees."

"The injection of massive monies, it transformed the English League into the most powerful competition in the World, despite having two teams from the Manchester region, three from Yorkshire and no less than five from London."

"The point I'm making here

is that geographical location of the various participants was never a deciding factor."

"The only decisive principle was survival of the fittest, in business terms, competition."

"Imagine hypothetically there will be 20 wealthy applicants such as the Perth Glory for the new re-modelled National League, should we just accept them all into the new League or tell ten of them to just go away?"

"Should we make a decision on the number of Clubs for the new League in advance, or wisely wait to see the quality of the applicants?"

"Should the number of Clubs in the new National League be a magic number decided artificially, or should the process be flexible and decided according to the real financial strength, of the participants, (teams can join if they deserve it, or teams forced to leave)."

The Queensland coach went on to warn: "It will reflect as very poor management to leave willing participants with financial strength out of the newly structured League."

"Should the Australian Soccer Association's future depend solely on the random opinion of 2,000 people off the street?"

"Don't we have better tools, or sense, to base our discussion on?"

"Should, tomorrow, one has to open a new Shopping Centre, the successful tenants will only be the ones that can pay the ruling rent," ended Bleiberg. It goes without saying, Bleiberg's intelligent and soul-searching comments carry much merit and deserve serious considerations.

**Make It Simple.**

## SOCCER IS PEACE: STANGE

*By Richard Kreider*

**F**ormer Perth Glory coach Bernd Stange made a brief visit to Western Australia last month to promote the resurrection of Iraqi soccer by way of a goodwill game involving the Iraqi National team and a West Australian composite side which will include players from Canberra's Australian Institute of Sport programme and ex-Socceroo Robbie Slater.

The World Peace Game project is an initiative fashioned by Stange, in conjunction with the WA Sports Centre Trust and WA's Department of Sport and Recreation.

The visitors will also face a Western Australian State side in the southern city of Albany ahead of participating in school coaching clinics at Bunbury.

The WA Government has promised \$20,000 to the trip with a further \$50,000 coming from the Federal Government.

"There is no doubt the ten day visit is more than a sporting tour," said WA's Premier Dr Geoff Gallop MLA.



**Bernd Stange**

"It is a mission of goodwill and peace at a time of great global uncertainty and disharmony. Soccer is the game of Iraq and I hope Western Australia can assist the Iraqi people re-establish their civil society."

There are great economic challenges and enormous social challenges but whatever

the troubles in the world, sport will always shine through," Dr Gallop said.

Meanwhile, if Stange found his job intimidating before the war, he must have been expecting it to be in an equally daunting state afterwards.

Yet, despite all the pandemonium and serious safety fears, he has returned to honour his obligations. "The Iraqi Football Association asked me to continue my job after the war. It was a very difficult decision for me to go back but I have and I am very glad I did," he said.

"I had been criticised before the war about coaching a soccer team in Iraq. Coach of the devil, coach of Saddam Hussein, but that's not true," said Stange who raised eyebrows right around the world by posing alongside a picture of Hussein.

It has also been reported that he was fired as coach of German club Hertha Berlin when they found out he was a self-confessed informer for East Germany's infamous secret police, the Stasi, during his time as co-coach at Carl Zeiss Jena.

(Continued on page 4)



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## '74 FESTIVITIES IN FULL SWING

**Read on page 2**



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**Full details please refer to Page 5.**





# PETROVSKI TO...

By Mark Stavroulakis

**N**ote: A message to all National League clubs, Sasho Petrovski is arriving down-under at Christmas and the burning question on everybody's lips is, which club will snap the star striker up?

The current Viborg attacker has spent the past three seasons in the Danish league but now has stated that its time to return back home to the NSL.

'Petro' has issued a 'come and get me' plea to one side in particular, National League high fliers and big money spenders, Parramatta Power.

The former Australian International told tribalfoot-

ball.com last week that. "I missed out on playing in a World Club Championship a couple of years ago at Wollongong, but looking at Parramatta they look a good bet to be the next Aussie club to get a chance of mixing it with the world's best".

"I want some of that".

There was talk that Petrovski was to sign for the Power during the NSL off-season and officially stated that coach Nick Theo was after him.

"Because Nick Theo was my old coach at the Wolves he kept in regular contact with me especially during the off-season. He wanted me back then but could not afford me", were the words Petrovski stated in ABSW's July



Which NSL club will Sasho Petrovski choose?

29th edition earlier this year.

That could soon turn a reality though for the former Bankstown Lions player who could don the yellow and blue colours of Parramatta this season. Known for his scoring abilities 'Petro' stated that this is what he intends to do upon his arrival.

"That's what I live on and with Nick I want to pick up where I left off when I joined Viborg three seasons ago. If Parramatta want to win the championship, then all they have to do is give me a call and I'll get them the goals to do so".

The Power currently pack a mean fire-power up front with Ante Milicic, John Buonavoglia, Travis Dodd and

Fernando Rech all known as recognized strikers for the club.

Sydney Olympic have also been interested in signing the striker as word has hit OKI Jubilee Oval that three-four players are expected to sign during the transfer window season in January and one position that has been spoken about has been the introduction of a new striker - could Petrovski be that man?

Known for his flamboyant style, the pitches of the National League will once again be a home to one of Australia's most lethal attackers.

A full in-depth interview on Sasho Petrovski will be seen in forth-coming ABSW editions - stay tuned!

## Remembering 74'

Part 2

By John Tscheperra

**T**here's an old saying that starts something like this: 'In the good old days....' We always seem to look back on days gone by as being the best in our lives.

I often wonder why. I certainly look back on the memories of my past. The salient ones, the good ones, are ones that I always bring to the fore again and again in a sort of reality check. It's a way to continue to set you in the direction you want to go in the future. Then I make some wishes.

Looking back on those wishes, I often wonder if we are satisfied with what we've created, to where we've come, and whether we've done the best we can. We need to leave something for our future generations that is much better than before.

This is called a legacy.

And in relation to our football history here in Australia, the question is: have we?

Everything is relative, and in relation to football, the sixties and early seventies were some of the best times for me. Why? I believed that the future was bright.

Football was growing in popularity; the games were played at a high level with large and vocal crowds in attendance. The powers-to-be seemed to be steering the game in a direction that would ensure its future to succeeding generations.

We were back in FIFA's fold (although some might question that at the moment), we had qualified for our first World Cup Finals ever (and since), our national coaching scheme was introduced (only recently has it been revamped), we promoted the 'beautiful game' to our youngsters (and getting them away from playing League and VFL - now AFL - was no mean feat), and in 1977, we introduced a country-wide National Soccer League.



1974 Greats Peter Wilson and Johnny Warren

This seemed to me a great start that that generation left for their children.

Looking back now, after that great initial start, we got well and truly lost on the way to 2003.

What became of that legacy?

Did Peter Wilson's sincere words fall on deaf ears? Did the late Jimmy Mackay's efforts mean nothing?

The performance of Jim Fraser, one of the great goalkeepers of Australian football, in ensuring a World Cup Finals berth was a major reason for that success.

He is still involved in the game today coaching many of our goalkeepers of the future. He believes that we mucked up; we didn't take advantage of our success.

"We laid the foundations during our time. And not only the '74 effort, but also previous campaigns. Remember that in 1970 we missed out by only one goal, and 1966 was a learning experience, so we improved every year.

"Getting to the World Cup is a planned build-up with a definite development plan and the countries that are successful continue to develop and plan.

"We didn't fulfil our legacy", he said.

And Les Scheinflug, Australia's longest serving National coach at youth level, if even more despondent.

"We reached Mount Everest but couldn't take advantage of it.

"We were naive; we didn't know how to promote the game. The players gave more than their country asked, and certainly more than the soccer fraternity did!" he stated.

After a long and illustrious generation of guiding Australian youth into the unbelievable realms of World Cup football, he is now continuing to impart his experience and knowledge through his 'Total Football' concept, a Homebush-based development program both for coaches and players.

"We have an immense quantity of players in Australia but not quality compared with other football nations like a Brazil or an Argentina or a



Germany, all of which we were able to compete against successfully in the past", he added.  
So he is continuing to provide a tangible legacy to our future players and the game in Australia.

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# TIDE TO TURN AT OLYMPIC?

By Peter Damalas

**N**ational Soccer League strugglers, Sydney Olympic, are gearing up for a positive second half of the season, according to coach Peter Papanikitas.

After a run of four successive matches at home, which yielded just the one win against Sydney United, and two goals, last season's grand finalists have entered an important phase of the season, with matches against the two clubs below them, Wollongong Wolves and Football Kingz.

Boasting the equal lowest goals scored record in the competition, the club's strikers realise that the onus is certainly on them to lift the team out of the bottom three and into contention for the top six.

"The lack of firepower up front is the biggest problem," said Papanikitas.

"We have created chances but we lack the composure to

take them, and this has had an effect on our confidence".

With almost an entirely new squad to the one that won the premiership last season, the coaching staff have had to work hard to recruit a first grade squad and bring the new players together as a team.

The past few weeks has seen a marked improvement in the style of play from Olympic, and the quick short passing game has been a distinct feature of the past two matches against Perth Glory and Melbourne Knights.

However, failure to capitalise on the chances created, and the regular conceding of soft goals has seen Olympic slump away from the top six.

"We have not been outplayed in our matches and we try to play attractive soccer, knocking the ball around. I am happy with the way we have been playing", Papanikitas said.

"But we seem to concede soft goals. This is down to the cohesion factor. I'm sure with

more urgency and consistency, we can resolve the mistakes at the back and improve on our conversion rate."

In the goalkeeper department, veteran Brett Hughes has been recruited in the place of Peco Trajceviski, who had a disappointing start to his NSL career.

Twenty year old New Zealander, Glen Moss, played against Perth and Melbourne and did impress the coach.

"He has done very well and has shown the potential to become a very good goalkeeper. We will evaluate the [goal-keeping] situation over time" he said.

Papanikitas has varied his approach in the attacking third of the pitch.

Star recruit Pablo Cardozo, who is yet to open his account this season, has often played just behind the twin strikeforce of Michael Baird and Jim Bakis.

But the departure of the former to the United Arab Emirates with the Young

Socceroos has Papanikitas struggling for answers to his striking dilemma.

Steve Karavatakis and youngsters Richie Cardozo and Jason Browne have been brought into the fold off the bench, but so far none have made a significant impact on the pitch.

In the match against Melbourne Knights last Sunday, pint sized Bakis lead the line with Cardozo in support. Despite the height differential with the Knights defenders, Bakis was desperately unlucky not to give his team the lead in the eighth minute, when he struck the crossbar.

While he toiled hard against the physical Melbourne defenders, and was unlucky not to be rewarded with a goal in the first half, Bakis stated that he prefers to do the lead up work just behind a target man.

Bakis concurred about the need to sort out the problems across the team. The 24 year

old, who has had a stint playing in Singapore, expressed concerns about the teams lack of creativity.

"We need more time to gel together as a team. Whether the job [winning matches] is done or not is up to the entire team" he said. "Recruitment would definitely help".

Bakis also compared the standards of Australian and Singapore soccer, stating that the pace was quicker in Asia but the quality of Australian players was superior.

Papanikitas also spoke about the need for a creative midfielder to provide variation in the team's play. Former Olympic playmaker, Troy Halpin, has been linked with a return to the club, and his passing range would certainly assist the likes of Bakis and Cardozo.

"Pablo needs a goal to get his confidence back. Once he scores his first goal, you will see a different player" Papanikitas said.

The coach believes that this

team has the ability to follow in the footsteps of Northern Spirit, who last season came from last on the ladder and stormed into the play offs on the back of a long unbeaten run.

"All of the teams that I have coached before have finished off the second round very well" he said.

"I think you will find that the boys will lift. We will get there."



Jimmy Bakis (L) & Pablo Cardozo: Olympic's new strike-force this season.

## STANGE: SOCCER IS PEACE (Continued from front page)

He then took the coaching post at Ukraine club Dniepropetrovsk, Glory followed not long after, prior to heading to the Middle East in 2000, where he had a ten-week term as coach of Oman (which included a 1-0 win over the Iraqi's). The four-year contract with Iraq was agreed to in November 2002.

Stange, who coached the East German team from 1983-88, recently had to overcome

team selection criticism from a former Iraq National coach Abdul Alah Hameed, who said at least six players didn't deserve to be in the squad that qualified for the Asian Championships - which lost its final game to Bahrain - but still won their group on goal difference.

"We dropped in the world rankings during the war but now after our success in Malaysia and Bahrain where

we qualified for the Asian Cup, Iraq is now number 52 in the world. Better than Scotland, better than Wales, Switzerland or Austria," he said with his tongue firmly in his cheek.

Stange's remaining goals are to qualify the Under 23 side for the Athens Olympics and guide the senior side to Germany 2006.

"Sure, it has improved," said the Iraqi captain Mohaned

Ali through an interpreter when asked if his country is a better place to live now that there is no longer a dictatorship.

"It is very important for us Iraqis to participate in soccer, to show the world that soccer is a symbol of peace in our country," said Ali, who plays for the Al-Shurta club.

The dilemma Stange faces is a mammoth one but thankfully, he is seeing areas of the

game that are making genuine efforts to help his cause. FIFA have promised to offer assistance through their GOAL program, with financial aid that will be used to build new facilities in both Afghanistan and Iraq.

"There is no competition, no equipment, no soccer balls, no goals, no nets, no surface, absolutely nothing," said Stange.

"Our training facilities have no grass and we are surrounded by tanks and military cars. Just one training session is possible. We can't train at night because lights are not allowed. It's too dangerous and during summer time we had some training sessions in 50C heat. There is no water for showers, no medical equipment."

"I know it's not the most important thing, there are many other things more important. We have bombing attacks everyday, we have no security and have high crime. It's much more important than soccer, although soccer is significant in other ways. Soccer is Peace!"

Stange did express his disappointment at not being able to take on the NSL Champions, but he did understand the current snags they are experiencing.

"Of course, I'd like to play against Perth Glory. I called Mich d'Avray about an opportunity but I understand they have 23,000 kilometres of travelling at this time and it's impossible for him to organise a match during the week."

Stange however, used his influence to have the German Football Association finance a three-week, all-expenses-paid training camp in Moenchengladbach, in September.

The World Peace Game will

be played on Sunday November 16 at Arena Joondalup, two days after the team arrives in Perth, while the game in Albany has been planned for Saturday 22nd.

Proceeds from the World Game and other fund-raising

activities will go to a special trust known as the World Peace Game Trust Fund, which is under the patronage of Stange. The money will be used for junior soccer development in Iraq.

## ALL GUNS BLAZING FOR PARISI

By Franco Mula

**T**he former Sydney Olympic striker scored 9 goals in only 6 starting appearances in the 2002/2003 NSL season, but in the 2003/2004 NSL season he's looking to go on further and further.

In his first season with Sydney United he looks like a promising striker, but in reality he is.

Franco Parisi is enjoying his football with United. "The team morale is really good and I'm playing with a great bunch of guys and I'm in a good environment," says Parisi.

He tried his luck in Holland with Dutch club Telstar Stormvogels and impressed Serie C1 club Prato, but in the NSL he is one of the most exciting strikers going around.

With his trials in Italy, he experienced the good and the bad, "I spend two months there and it was a good experience and a good learning curve."

Parisi so far has had a quiet NSL season, but this young gun has earned his way to represent his call up with the young Socceroos.

In October 2003, he ran on to play for Australia against

the United Arab Emirates in a friendly, "its always an honor to play for your country at any level."

"And like Sydney United I am playing with a great bunch of guys in the young Socceroos."

Parisi's personal goals for this year is to go better than he did in his last season in the NSL with Sydney Olympic, "I'm aiming to score over 15 goals, but mainly to be a team player, I'm aiming to help the team as much as I can."


Parisi also talked about his teams expectations, and how Sydney United is going this season, "Sydney United as a club is just taking each game at a time, and to build on every week."

"We want to win every time we go out there," which is the right mentality.

But for now, Parisi wants to do the best for his team and his mates, but would love to play in Europe, "Seriously my goal in the future is to play with any major club in Europe," and he has the talent to go along with the likes of Mark Viduka and John Aloisi.

And this guy really has the potential. So far he hasn't got his name on the goal sheet but look out for his name, Franco Parisi he has a lot of potential.





**UNSW  
SOCCER CLUB**

### ENTERS GIRL'S YOUTH LEAGUE IN 2004

The University of New South Wales following premierships in Women's State League First Grade and U/21's in 2003, have expanded their youth development to include Girl's Youth League in 2004. All grades are overseen by Head Women's Coach, Dez Marton.

All trials to be held at David Phillips Fields, Cnr Banks and Gwea Ave, Daceyville.

Tuesday	4th November 2003	- U/12's, U/14's and U/16's	5pm to 7pm
Friday	7th November 2003	- U/12's, U/14's and U/16's	5pm to 7pm
Sunday	9th November 2003	- U/12's, U/14's and U/16's	10am to 12noon
Tuesday	11th November 2003	- U/12's, U/14's and U/16's	5pm to 7pm
Friday	14th November 2003	- U/12's, U/14's and U/16's	5pm to 7pm
Sunday	16th November 2003	- U/12's, U/14's and U/16's	10am to 12noon

You will need:- soccer equipment (boots, shinpads, etc), Lots of water and sunscreen.

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Campbelltown NSW 2560

For details contact David Finlay 0412 628 154 (M)



## BELMORE HERCULES SOCCER CLUB

### BELMORE HERCULES SOCCER CLUB FIRST DIVISION

## 2004 TRIALS DATES

Under 13s 1st Division Youth League:	Tuesdays 14, 21 & 28 October and 4 November 2003	6-8pm
Under 14s 1st Division Youth League:	Tuesdays 14, 21 & 28 October and 4 November 2003	6-8pm
Under 15s 1st Division Youth League:	Tuesdays 14, 21 & 28 October and 4 November 2003	6-8pm
Under 16s 1st Division Youth League:	Tuesdays 14, 21 & 28 October and 4 November 2003	6-8pm
Under 18s 1st Division Youth League:	Thursdays 16, 23 & 30 October and 6 November 2003	6-8pm
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# National Soccer League



**Wollongong Wolves**

**0**



**Sydney Olympic**

**1**

By Otto Bader

The only pleasing moment for the Wollongong club was that the Youth Grade won three-one, coach Eddie Tesoro the only one smiling, goals from Nigerian striker Chimaobi Nwaogazi (2) and one from captain Michael Wrakso.

2251 turned up to the match and hopefully they will always be there in even greater numbers even if the boys don't win another game. Try as he did, the elusive leading or winning goal just did not come on the day.

An un-necessary penalty according to the experts, converted in the 74th minute by striker Pablo Cardozo for Olympic gave them the three points. Perhaps the unfortunate defender for the Wolves Daniel Cummins, who had a solid game until he was given his marching orders after the penalty for a second yellow card, could have in hindsight let the ball roll

instead of tackling the attacker. But that is easily said then done after the event, the referee after checking with the linesman had no hesitation to point to the spot. Wolves outstanding goal keeper Andrew Crews had no chance despite having done well all game long. He made several crucial saves, some point blank. His opponent at the other end, former Wolves player/keeper Brett Hughes had also a fine game, the two keepers without doubt were the best players on the field.

Wollongong coach John Turner, obviously frustrated that his hard work did count for nil, did not question the penalty saying he would like to see a video replay before making any comment. He protected his defender and now is looking for a replacement since Cummins will have to serve a mandatory suspension.

Olympic coach Peter Papanikitas thought it was definitely a penalty praising

his team for the hard work on the field saying only some spectacular saves by the Wolves keeper prevented his boys scoring more goals, hitting the crossbar twice.

Opportunities fell to both sides, perhaps some more in the first half to the Wolves which were wasted by haste, rush and not being composed enough, perhaps the exuberance of youngster like John Majurovski and 18 year old Matthew Gordon and Adam Hughes plus Michael Hawrysiuk contributed to the misses far too often.

In the 6th minute the Wolves were only stopped by a fantastic save from the Olympic keeper with the defence outplayed. Veteran striker Stuart Young tried hard to control his young attackers in using their half chances but could not get a clear shot on goal either, well blocked by the opposition defence.

A free header by Olympic's Paul Kohler

could have given his team the lead but for a brilliant save by the home side keeper. In the second half the home side had to suffer some dangerous situations,

nearly conceding an own goal abut for a low dive-save from Andrew Crews while Ben Blake headed into arms of Olympic keeper Brett Hughes.

The game settled in fast moves but nothing to forceful which could eventuate into a score.

The penalty came late in the game and from there on the Wolves were on the back foot with only 10 players on

the field after having their defender send-off. The biggest hit came in extra time when Olympic keeper Brett Hughes stopped a cracking shot from Michael Hawrysiuk going for the net but was blocked brilliantly.

Another loss for the Wolves despite trying very hard and showing top effort, things are not going well while Olympic got a lift in confidence from their suc-

cess. Their outstanding players were youngster Joe Schirripa and Zenon Caravella while for the Wolves Adam Hughes and Michael Hawrysiuk.

With Parramatta and Perth coming to WIN Stadium in the next two games the Wolves need all the help they can muster to survive and gain a point or two.



Pablo Cardozo finally opened his goalscoring account with a well-taken penalty to gift Olympic the three points. (Photo By Carlos Furtado)

## Stallions must front tribunal again

MARCONI will front the National Soccer League tribunal for the second time this season after Joe Spiteri was sent from the field during a scoreless draw against

Adelaide United at Marconi Stadium.

Spiteri received his second yellow card six minutes from fulltime after he had got the first 13 minutes into the second half for dissent.

The send-off was the climax of a spiteful second half in which three players from each team were booked, making a total of seven yellow cards for the match.

Marconi's Brad Maloney

and coach Jean-Paul de Marigny this week appeared before the tribunal resulting from charges laid after a match against Parramatta earlier this season.

De Marigny escaped suspension but Maloney received four weeks for a dangerous tackle which broke the leg of Power defender Andrew Durante.

Now Spiteri will miss next week's match against Brisbane and must appear before the NSL tribunal for a decision on any further suspension.

De Marigny said he hoped Marconi had not earned a reputation among referees for foul play.

"They've (the referees) got to do their job, we're not going to change," he said.

"They're protected and we can't say too much about it."

De Marigny said the team had taken strength from the controversy surrounding Maloney's suspension.

"What it's done has made us stronger as a unit," he said.

"We've got a job to do and goals to achieve and we're right on target."

Referee Craig Zetter was booed off by the Marconi faithful after the match.



**Kingz**

**0**



**Northern Spirit**

**2**

THE Football Kingz sustained yet another loss last week as their NSL season continued to drift aimlessly.

The Kingz went down 2-0 to Northern Spirit at Auckland's Ericsson Stadium, their sixth successive defeat of the season.

They were in the contest

at halftime when the score was 0-0 but fell behind in the 55th minute after Dylan Macallister scored the opener.

Ian Ferguson scored another from the penalty spot 11 minutes later to double the visitors' advantage but Northern Spirit didn't have things all their own way.

Scottish import Stewart Petrie, fresh from scoring a hat-trick last week against Wollongong, found himself on the wrong side of referee Brett Hugo.

Petrie was booked in the 76th minute for something he said to Hugo, who booked him again two minutes later for a bad tackle and sent him from the field.

Despite being a man down, Spirit were able to defend their lead.

The Kingz have now lost all their matches and look set to fight out this seasons wooden spoon along with fellow strugglers the Wollongong Wolves.



Dylan Macallister had a solid game and scored for the Spirit.

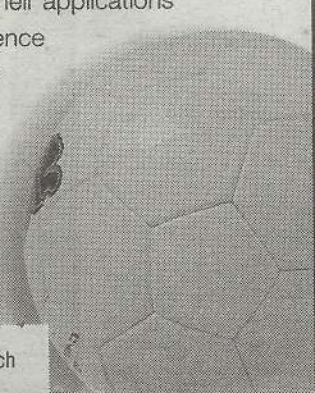
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# National Soccer League

	<b>Parramatta Power</b>	<b>4</b>
	<b>Melbourne Knights</b>	<b>0</b>

By David Mason

**P**arramatta Power stretched its unbeaten run at Parramatta Stadium to 12 months and 16 matches with an emphatic 4-0 victory over a deadpan Melbourne Knights in a round eight National Soccer League match last weekend.

Power striker Ante Milicic backed up his hat trick last weekend with another two goals against the Knights and in doing so went to the top of the NSL leading goalscorers list with seven for the season.

The win also extended Parramatta Power's unbeaten start to the season to seven matches, the longest undefeated streak in the club's history.

Parramatta went into the match with the same starting side that defeated Perth Glory last weekend with Coach Nick Theodorakopoulos resisting the temptation to give some of the recent bench

players some game time.

Parramatta started the match full of running with the right hand side of the field once again looking dangerous through Ahmad Elrich and Andre Gumprecht.

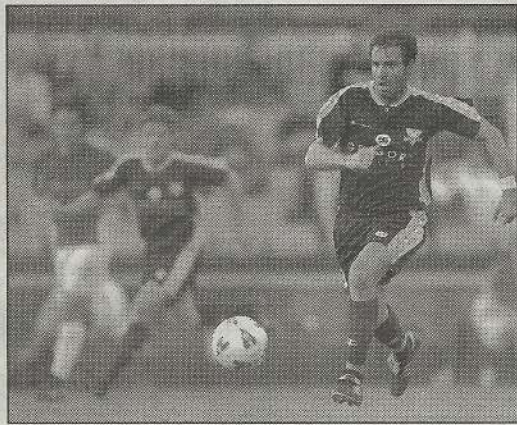
Power had its first real chance in the 8th minute when Matt Thompson released Johnny Buonavoglia and with the Knights' goalkeeper Tommi Tomich caught in no man's land, the lobbed shot was off target with the goal beckoning. The next chance came in the 17th minute when Elrich put Buonavoglia away but Tomich came off his line well to defuse the situation.

Parramatta dominated possession in the early exchanges but struggled to break down the Knights defence, which obviously came into the match with a plan not to suffer the same damage inflicted upon Perth Glory last weekend.

A good indication of the

stifling style of play employed by the Knights saw Ante Milicic not have his first chance until the 27th minute when his weak shot went

shot beat Tomich and was helped into the net by Knights defender Antun Kovacic, who was credited with an own goal.



Ante Milicic notched up two goals in Power's four-nil victory over the Melbourne Knights.

straight to Tomich from a similar position that he netted two goals last week.

Parramatta Power took a 1-0 lead in the 37th minute when Milicic got in behind the defence and his delicate

The goal seemed to spark the Power attack although the Knights did not change their defensive tactics and within the next three minutes the lead could have been doubled as Elrich and Milicic had

good chances.

Parramatta Power extended its lead in the 53rd minute when Milicic scored his 6th goal of the season with a sweet left foot shot that beat Tomich at the far post following a good cross by Buonavoglia, who was finding space down the left hand side of the field.

The second goal seemed to break the spirit of the Knights defence and Milicic made it 3-0 in the 62nd minute when he drifted across the edge of the penalty area and his shot rifled into the bottom left hand corner of the goal.

Further chances to Elrich and Colosimo, whose delicate chip from 35m brought out a scrambling save by Tomich, continued the tone of the night with the Power relentless in its pursuit of more goals.

The Power made it 4-0 when Travis Dodd was the first to react when Tomich failed to handle a fierce Peter Zorbas shot and Dodd toe-poked the ball home for the simplest of goals.

The Power peppered the Knights goal in the final stages of the match but could not add to the four goals.

	<b>Marconi Stallions</b>	<b>0</b>
	<b>Adelaide United</b>	<b>0</b>

By Joe Russo

**M**arconi supporters can be certain of one thing at Marconi Stadium this year that a Stallions player will be sent off in each game. Or so it seems.

Once again on Saturday night it was evident that Marconi has a discipline problem, as Joe Spiteri was sent off for his second bookable offence in the 83rd minute.

However, it must be said that up until that point Spiteri was arguably one of the best Marconi players on the field. The 0-0 draw rewarded Adelaide United who would have been happy to walk away from the Bossley Park ground with a point. Especially in the second half the Stallions dominated proceedings.

If it had been a boxing match it would have been a clear points decision to the home side.

Marconi coach Jean Paul De Marigny has certainly turned the Stallions around this season and, after two consecutive losses, they deserved

a lot more than the 0-0 scoreline would suggest against the visiting Adelaide United.

However, De Marigny needs to quickly address what appears to be a lack of discipline in his squad. At this rate the Stallions will be constantly without some of their best players who will be out suspended and the close draws, which should actually be converted to wins such as this game, will be opportunities lost for the Stallions.

John Kosmina, De Marigny's counterpart at Adelaide United and former teammate at the now defunct Sydney City, would have been elated at the point his team achieved.

The second half was a real travesty of justice Marconi clearly the more positive and flamboyant team were sadly denied by an Adelaide team which really should thank their young goalkeeper David Scarsella for keeping them in the game.

It was probably best that there were so few spectators to witness this game (1,820) as it is unlikely to go down in the annals as a game to remember.

Dominic Longo placed a header just wide from a Brendan Renaud free kick in the 6th minute. Adelaide replied in the 17th minute when Goran Lozanovski intercepted a terrible back pass from Michael Thwaite but Michael Turnbull did very well to save the day. However, Lozanovski did have an unmarked player in support and perhaps could have done better.

In the 20th minute Spiteri was barreled over in the penalty box by two Adelaide players in what clearly appeared to be a penalty except for the referee Craig Zetter.

It was Longo who cleared the ball badly four minutes later only to sky the ball and Westervelt almost punished Marconi. His shot was well saved by Turnbull just under the crossbar.

Shortly afterwards Spiteri placed a header wide and in the 33rd minute Michael Valkanis beat Jeremy Harris to the ball and put it away for a corner for the visitors. It wasn't to be Harris's night as often he was found wanting up front.

In the second half it was again Spiteri who tested Scarsella early on with a great shot but the goalkeeper was well and truly up to it.



Nick Carle shown in action against Adelaide United last Saturday evening.

In the 65th minute a Longo cross found Harris but his header was not timed well and a few minutes later it was again Spiteri who had a shot, only for it to be deflected for a corner.

Harris's flick on from a Chad Gibson cross in 71st minute narrowly missed the post and once again the Stallions were ever so close.


Ten minutes later Marconi actually scored but Thwaite's goal was ruled out for kicking the ball from Scarsella's hands when he was actually in control of it. It was originally Nick Carle's shot which had to be saved by the Adelaide custodian.

Spiteri's second booking arrived in the 83rd minute and Marconi were left a man short for the remaining minutes. Not that it mattered because Adelaide were content with the point and Carle's free kick right at the end was no real trouble for Scarsella.

#### Players Ratings

**MARCONI:** Turnbull 7, Longo 6, Costanzo 7, Thwaite 7, Casserly 7, Last 6, Renaud 6, Carle 7, Gibson 6, Harris 5, Spiteri 7.

**ADELAIDE:** Scarsella 7, Alagich 6, Rees 7, Goulding 6, Valkanis 7, Aloisi 7, Veart 7, Vidmar 7, Lozanovski 6, Westervelt 7, Kemp 6.

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# National Soccer League



## Perth Glory

1



## South Melbourne

0

By Richard Kreider

**T**he heat was on Perth Glory in more ways than one last Sunday afternoon at Arena Joondalup, where the defending champions took on and beat South Melbourne by a single goal.

Perth needed to rebound from the 6-0 drubbing they received from rival National Soccer League championship contenders Parramatta Power the week before, and they did it, albeit courtesy of a fortunate second-half penalty in sweltering conditions.

"We should have had five or six today," said Glory's assistant coach Alan Vest on the amount of missed opportunities that came his side's way. "I thought we played some neat soccer after what was a bright start."

The clean-sheet for Perth

goalkeeper Jason Petkovic was a double-reward, for it equalled the NSL record by Bob Catlin of 105 shut-outs.

"I wasn't really interested in any record, just interested in getting the right result," said the Perth 'keeper in his typical modest manner.

For the South Melbourne boss however, a cruel penalty decision was a merciless way to lose a game which saw his side surrendering their third place standing at a time when they lost just once from their last five fixtures.

"It is a grey area," said Stuart Munro on the handball decision imposed on Marcus Stergiopoulos, who was unable to get out of the way of an attempted lob from Perth midfielder Tom Pondeljak after a little over an hour's play.

"There were three 'handballs' in our previous game but the referee never gave a

thing from them," said Munro.

"The heat was also a major factor for us - but credit to Glory who lifted after the break."

Right from the opening exchanges, the game became a midfield scrum, but when the home side did carve an opening, their shooting proved ordinary.

Damian Mori, especially, had an off-day by his standards, which began from a clear-cut chance to break the deadlock after 23 minutes, when faced with just Eugene Galekovic to beat. The competition's all-time champion netbuster elected for power rather than placement and his shot from eight metres ended up closer to a corner flag than the back of the South Melbourne net.

Four minutes earlier, the visitors had their one and only real scoring opportunity

for the half, by way of a long-range missile from Michael Panopoulos that was superbly tipped away by Petkovic.

Glory midfielder Brad Hassell skied a headed chance in the 36th minute but it was South's who enjoyed the final first-half action from a 40th minute corner, where a tricky downward header from Steve Laurie brought the best out of Petkovic.

Bobby Despotovski was playing an inspirational game for his side and it came close to being rewarded with a goal after 59 minutes had it not been for the reflexes of Galekovic.

Two minutes later, another surge by Glory saw Pondeljak in with another opening, but his attempted lob struck Stergiopoulos on the arm from such close proximity that it would have

been almost impossible to avoid.

Despotovski made no mistake in drilling the spot-kick past the South's 'keeper.

After Pondeljak fired a bullet past an upright three minutes later, and Hassell directed a low-drive past another post, Michael

Curcija had an equalising chance taken away from him ten minutes from the end when Scott Miller made a timely interception to Scott Tunbridge's left-side centre - just metres from the net.

Mori's day ended just as drably as it started, with a 77th minute substitution following a knock to an ankle.

"We met a very good team today," said Glory coach Mich d'Avray. "They are a much organised outfit that are difficult to break down."

"After the previous week's effort, the last thing we needed was to cop a sucker punch and go a goal behind. As it was, this will give our players a huge boost," he ended.



Bobby Despotovski was Perth's hero after slotting home a penalty in their one-nil win over South Melbourne.

### Player Ratings

**Perth Glory:** J Petkovic 8, M Horsley 8, M Bingley 6, B Hassell 7, S Murphy 7, S Miller 8, B Despotovski 8, J North 7, M Byrnes 7, T Pondeljak 8, D Mori 6.

**South Melbourne:** E Galekovic 7, I Osman 7, M Panopoulos 7, A Kovacevic 8, V Coveny 7, C Boutisanis 6, M Stergiopoulos 7, S Laurie 8, M Curcija 7, S Poutakidis 7, S Tunbridge 7.



## Sydney United

3



## Brisbane Strikers

0

By Stuart Jones

**S**ydney United entered the top six after a comprehensive 3-0 victory over the team they replaced in the top six, the Brisbane Strikers.

A brace of goals to Anthony Doumanis (one from the penalty spot) and a solitary effort from Damon Collina saw United double their goals for column on the table.

In front of a crowd of 2756 on Sunday night United opened the game with style and capped it in the seventh minute with their first goal in 395 minutes. A Franco Parisi corner was cleared out to the right where it fell to Paul Markovic. He crossed the ball to Joe Vrkic who headed back towards goal where it was punched away by Scott Higgins. The ball came to Anthony Doumanis on the left and his shot hit the cross bar. It rebounded to Damon Collina who headed the ball into the back of the net.

Five minutes later David Huxley played a long pass through to Ivanic who's shot thundered off the cross bar. A minute later Ivanic scrambled back another ball to Doumanis but he was clipped in the area by McCloughlan and referee Matthew Breeze pointed to the spot. Joe Vrkic stepped up to take it but it was well parried by Higgins. The rebound fell to Lahiti on the left but his shot went across the face of goal.

After the missed penalty the game dropped its intensity. Brisbane tried to push hard and certainly had good possession but failed to capitalise on this. In fact despite a number of crosses from Steffanutto on the left Brisbane did not have a shot on target the whole half. Sydney United were dangerous on the counter attack but were finding shots hard to come by as well.

In the opening period of the second half Royce Brownlie played the ball through to Morley who's

effort missed the post. He should have done much better with it. Ten minutes into the half and a Mark Rudan attempted shot struck the hand of Steve Fitzsimmons and referee Breeze pointed to the spot once more. This time Doumanis stepped up to take it and he made no mistake in doubling the league for the home team.

On the 61st minute a Joe Vrkic header from substitute Brendan Santalab's corner was sensationally tipped away by Higgins. Seven minutes later Brisbane recorded their first shot on target - straight to Liam Reddy.

Over the next fifteen minutes United saw their goal mouth besieged by yellow shirts but any shot that was goalward bound was either saved by Reddy or deflected off a United player (and their were a load of those deflections aiding United.)

In the 84th minute it looked as if United had spurned their chance of mov-

ing into the top six after Brendan Santalab placed a ball in the hands of custodian Higgins. Sean Babic had cut the ball back from the byline to the unmarked Santalab junior. Babic looked very sharp after he came on and in the 89th minute he played the third substitute Dean Heffernan into open space on the left. Heffernan advanced up the park and then switched the play to Santalab on the right. Santalab played it first time to Doumanis in the centre and after controlling it, thereby confusing the defence, he placed the ball in the far low corner to complete the scoring for the day.

The 3-0 overall and coach Grant Lee was happy with the performance, "the signs have been there that we could do this and the boys gelled well today. Our foundation is the solid defence work we are doing but today our attack went well."

We were enthusiastic and kept going all day," Stuart McLaren whilst upset with

the result was not discouraged by the team's performance as a whole.

It was a terrific display of football as a whole and United go the three points they deserved. They scored the same amount of goals

this game as they had in six previous matches this season. The most encouraging point is that in seven games they have conceded just four goals and none in their last three matches.

For the Strikers it was

great to see they have continued to adopt an attacking game and continue to display a never say die attitude. Nice to be able to point out that the referee, Matthew Breeze, had a solid game overall as well.



Smiles all round at Edensor Park as Sydney United players celebrate Damon Collina's first goal against the Brisbane Strikers last week.

## BYE - NEWCASTLE UNITED



# Wollongong News

By Otto Bader

## Turner counts on Youth

Matthew Gordon, an 18 year old striker from the Wolves youth pool has been called up to the senior squad.

He is the second youngster named after Michael Andrews, a defender. Youth coach Eddie Tesoro must be proud having coached two classy soccer talents considered for First Grade but on the other hand missing them in his run-on side.

John Turner is making it a habit to watch the young Wolves games, encouraging the boys thus creating an expectation of selection into senior grade, a new anticipation among the youngsters with aspects of higher grade soccer to be played. Seldom before has the head coach taken such interest in the young soccer prospects.

Injuries still plague the seniors forcing the coach to search for replacements. Some of his seniors find the

going tough and have to be tough themselves to dominate on the field - show aggression when called for.

The coach is giving every ambitious player with the proper attitude and work rate a chance to play NSL soccer - a once in the lifetime opening for soccer players of all ages.

## New

### Appointments -

Corrimal Rangers Soccer Club president Pat Duncan announced the club's coaching appointments for next season - first grade John Demasi, Reserves Brian Smith, Youth Grade Darren Holt.

Pre-season trials start at Memorial Park on Wednesday 3/12/03 at 6 PM - all past and intended players are welcome to attend. Pat Duncan is looking for a great season.

Corrimal is one of the area's foundation soccer clubs, first mentioned 1903 in the South Coast Times.

# NATIONAL YOUTH LEAGUE 2003-2004 NORTHERN DIVISION ROUND 8

## LEAGUE LADDER

	P	W	D	B	L	F	A	Pts
AIS	5	4	1	2	0	14	4	13
Canberra Deakin	6	4	1	1	1	14	12	13
Brisbane Strikers	6	4	0	2	2	12	8	12
Wollongong Wolves	5	4	0	1	1	8	4	12
Marconi Stallions	8	3	2	0	3	14	12	11
Parramatta Power	6	3	0	1	3	13	10	9
Newcastle United	6	2	2	0	2	7	5	8
Northern Spirit	7	2	2	1	3	5	8	8
Sydney United	7	2	0	1	5	12	17	6
QAS	4	1	1	1	2	7	9	4
Sydney Olympic	6	1	1	1	4	7	13	4
ACTAS	4	0	0	1	4	2	14	0

## FRIDAY 7 NOVEMBER 2003

Wollongong Wolves .....3	Sydney Olympic .....1
(Nwagazi 25' 54', Werakso 51')	(Karavatakis 60')

## SATURDAY 8 NOVEMBER 2003

Parramatta Power .....5	Canberra Deakin .....1
(Simpson 18' 30', Robert Younis 22', Bridge 84', Martino 85')	(Cattanach 70')

Marconi Stallions .....3	QAS .....0
(Gulesserian 49', Rossi 80' Severino 88')	

AIS .....3	Northern Spirit .....0
(Downes 24', Deegan 79', Makrys 82')	

## SUNDAY 9 NOVEMBER 2003

Sydney United .....1	Brisbane Strikers .....3
(Ozbej 32') Hickey 78')	(Tatchell 10', Hilton 73',

## DEFERRED MATCH FROM RD 5 - Played on Friday 7 November 2003

ACTAS .....1	Newcastle United .....4
(Marcino 89')	(Boogaard 11' 15', Wallace 25' Hickey 78')

BYE - ACTAS  
BYE - Newcastle United

## NATIONAL YOUTH LEAGUE 2003-2004 NORTHERN DIVISION FIXTURES - ROUND 9

FRIDAY 14 NOVEMBER 2003  
Wollongong Wolves Vs Parramatta Power  
Time: 5.00pm  
Venue: WIN Stadium

Newcastle United Vs Sydney United  
Time: 5.15pm  
Venue: EnergyAustralia Stadium

SATURDAY 15 NOVEMBER 2003  
Canberra Deakin Vs ACTAS  
Time: 5.00pm  
Venue: McKellar Soccer Centre

Marconi Stallions Vs Brisbane Strikers  
Time: 4.30pm  
Venue: Marconi Stadium

POSTPONED MATCH - To be played on Saturday 29 November 2003  
Sydney Olympic Vs AIS  
Time: 4.00pm  
Venue: OKI Jubilee Stadium

MATCH BROUGHT FORWARD FROM RD 13 - To be played on Saturday 15 November 2003



AIS' talented midfielder Phil Makrys got on the scoresheet in their 3-0 win over the Northern Spirit.

# SOCCERWOMAN by Janene Mar

## WNSL 2003/04 - ROUND FOUR

The top of the table clash between NSW Sapphires and Queensland Sting ended up with the points shared in a 1-1 draw for the pair to remain a clear five points ahead of the chasing pack at the end of WNSL's Round Four. Canberra Eclipse and Victoria Vision claimed their first wins for the season to move up the ladder.

### LATE GOAL GIVES ECLIPSE FIRST WIN

CANBERRA ECLIPSE 2 (Jenna Maciejewski 17m, Tal Karp 80m) defeated NORTHERN NSW PRIDE 1 (Gemma O'Toole 58m) at Wanderers Oval, Newcastle

In Newcastle Sunday morning, Canberra Eclipse scored a winner in the last ten minutes of play to record a tight 2-1 victory over Northern NSW Pride, Canberra's first win for the season.

After a scoreless draw and two single-goal losses to the top pair, Eclipse were relieved to finally score their first goals, and push up into fourth place.

Eclipse claimed the lead in the 17th minute when Amy Wilson pushed forward before threading a pinpoint pass through to Jenna Maciejewski who found the back of the net from just inside the 18-yard box.

Pride hit back with an equaliser in the 58th minute with substitute Gemma O'Toole scoring her first ever league goal three minutes after taking the field. The youngster was

on the spot to head home the rebound after a teammate's long range effort had thumped against the crossbar. It made for a thrilling final half hour with both teams desperate to prise themselves away from the bottom of the ladder.

In the end it was Canberra who broke the deadlock in the 80th minute. The ball was played in from wide, and World Cup midfielder Tal Karp found the ball at her feet for a simple finish from the 6-yard box.

Pride - Herd, Wilson, Oxtoby, Shepherd, Khamis (O'Toole 55), Neilson, Small, Colthorpe, Baker, Crawford, Gill (Cotts 88).

Eclipse - Hartley, Somi, Staniforth, Davies, C Maciejewski (David 46), Karp, Hepperlin, Chapman, J Maciejewski (Frewin 21), Wilson (Parker 66), Munoz.

### VISION HOLD OUT FOR VALUABLE WIN

VICTORIA VISION 1 (Belinda Pannella 9m) defeated ADELAIDE SENSATION 0 at Hindmarsh Stadium, Adelaide

On Saturday in Adelaide, Victoria Vision produced their first win of the season with a hard-fought 1-0 victory over Adelaide Sensation, a result which moves Victoria into third position.

Vision, who finished last the previous two years, continue to be the bogey side for Adelaide Sensation, having now beaten Adelaide once in each of the last four seasons. In those previous three seasons, it ended up being Victoria's only win for the competition, but this year look likely to improve on those statistics.

The visitors scored early in last week's clash, to instantly put the pressure on game

favourites Adelaide. Sensation lifted a gear and threatened the opposition goal throughout the second half, but found themselves up against a rock-solid Vision defence. Adelaide sorely missed the influence of defender Dianne Alagich and midfielder Collette McCallum, whilst Vision were forced to make the journey without defenders Daniela Digiammarco and Lauren Farrugia, and midfielder Jamara Maza.

Striker Belinda Pannella followed up on last week's hatrick for the solitary goal in the 9th minute. Pannella was released with a well-weighted through-ball from Gabriella Angelucci and beat the goalkeeper in clinical fashion. The goal turned out to be the sole highlight for the first half, the game then a dour midfield battle, with Adelaide's Vicki Balomenos taking the only other shot before the break.

Sensation brought the game alive after half-time, in eager search for goals and the win. Balomenos sent a Stacey Day cross just wide in the 53rd minute, before Marie Spagnoletti's attempt from a Stacey Stocco cross was cleared off the line by Victoria four minutes later.

Vision had rarely been in sight of goal since scoring, but their defence was not giving up on the three points. Adelaide's Slater was in a one-on-one opportunity with the keeper before the danger was cleared by defender Caroline McEvoy with a saving tackle in the 80th minute. Papageorgiou was then also stopped in her tracks with a timely tackle by substitute Andrea Totsidis.

Adelaide had one last chance for an equaliser in stoppage time, Slater unleashing a fierce drive from the edge of the 18-yard box which was fumbled by keeper Melissa Barbieri and regathered, for the home side to

come away from the match with no reward. Sensation - Wirkus, May, Shigrov, Vogt, Walsh, Day, Spagnoletti, Stocco, Wilson, Balomenos (Papageorgiou 59), De Vanna (Slater 59).

Vision - Barbieri, McEvoy, Lamb, Smith, Jackson, Groenewald (Ruyter-Hooley 76), Fitzgerald, Bisby, Angelucci (Totsidis 76), Terek, Pannella.

## PROGRESSIVE POINTS LADDER

	P	W	D	L	F	A	GD	Pts
NSW SAPPHIRES	4	3	1	0	13	2	11	10
QUEENSLAND STING	4	3	1	0	11	3	8	10
VICTORIA VISION	4	1	2	1	7	10	-3	5
CANBERRA ECLIPSE	4	1	1	2	2	3	-1	4
ADELAIDE SENSATION	4	1	0	3	5	8	-3	3
NORTHERN NSW PRIDE	4	0	1	3	7	19	-12	1

## LEADING GOALSCORERS 2003/04

4	Jessica MITCHELL	Queensland Sting
4	Belinda PANNELLA	Victoria Vision
4	Catherine CANNULI	NSW Sapphires
3	Michelle CARNEY	NSW Sapphires
3	Belinda DAWNEY	Queensland Sting
2	Kylie LEDBROOK	NSW Sapphires
2	Katie GILL	Northern NSW Pride
2	Vicki BALOMEMOS	Adelaide Sensation

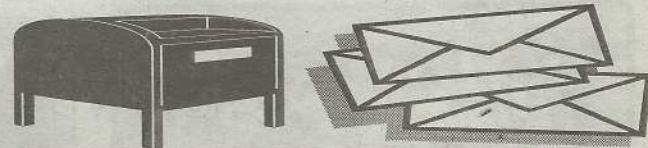
## NEXT ROUND - ROUND FIVE

Saturday 15 November		
Queensland Sting v Northern NSW Pride	7.00pm	ANZ Stadium, Brisbane
Saturday 15 November		
Victoria Vision v NSW Sapphires	3.00pm	Serbian SC, VIC
Sunday 16 November		
Adelaide Sensation v Canberra Eclipse	1.00pm	Hindmarsh Stadium, SA

NOTE: More information on the NSW Sapphires' one-all draw read on Page 19 in ABSW's 8-page NSW section.



# Letters & Giveaways



## MALONEY WAS 'JUST'

Dear Sir,

While Maloney's challenge on Andrew Durante was certainly dangerous, with his studs up, I do not think that it was in his mind to maliciously injure the player.

Maloney is renowned for his aggressive streak, but I don't think that I have ever seen him as a dangerous player. He has a lot of respect for his opponents, having played in the NSL for many years now.

I think his good behavior should assist him in the charges that will be brought against him, as he is by no means a 'dirty' player.

If you look at the challenge in real time and slow motion, I think you'll find that he was simply challenging for a 50-50 ball which was there for the taking. Durante was isolated as the last man, and Maloney's desperate lunge, while his technique was incorrect, was purely out of the hope of retrieving the ball in a promising position for his team.

I feel sorry for Durante, he is a class player who has a real future ahead of him. I think Maloney realizes this and I can't see his act as an intentional one.

Bridgette Reynolds,  
North Ryde, NSW.

## DAVIS SAYS IT RIGHT!

Dear Sir,

The silence following the excellent commentary by Brendon Davis in ABSW 21/10/2003 has amazed me. Not one letter has appeared in the ABSW commenting on the bleak picture painted by Brendon. This situation certainly does not apply to only NSL clubs but to all clubs competing anywhere in Australia.

His comments go right to the heart of all clubs endeavoring to field teams to play our wonderful game. To run a club (say 2 senior teams 2 women teams, 4 junior teams) for a season in the lower divisions without the payment of players costs in the vicinity of \$100,000-\$150,000.

If we add on wages for say 16 players on the basis of 22 matches then we could be looking at a further \$35,200 - \$176,000. So where do the clubs get this money and if

Brendon is right and I certainly do not doubt this for one minute, that these costs will increase by at least a multiple of 3 over the next 8 years (Just watch the cost of liability insurance keep rising). What future planning is undertaken by a club beyond the next season they face.

What help do the federations give to clubs in the way of educating such officials to think and prepare for the future. What future plans do the federations have for creating an educational sports marketing program for the individual clubs to develop their own income from marketing campaigns and/or merchandising.

There are so many problems arising out of the administration of our game that with the changes envisaged by the recent announcements of the National body provoke the 1972 Labor party war cry, "it's time". It is time for the grass roots people to speak up and take control of our game, there is no better time than now.

Regards

From The Email  
Stephen Romp

## SLOW START FOR KNIGHTS

Dear Sir,

I am slightly surprised about the slow start made by the Melbourne Knights.

With coach Ian Dobson on board, I thought that his season might see the club make some vast improvements, if not to qualify for the top six, then at least fight tooth and nail to get there.

They have a solid grounding at the club in terms of playing depth, and in two to three years perhaps, I feel that they may challenge for honours once again, providing they keep the talented players and recruit some more players.

The main thing for the Knights is experience. By the end of the season, I hope to see a better team to the one we are seeing now.

Ivan Markovic,  
Sunshine, VIC.

## FIFA 2004 COMP

**F**IFA Soccer 2004 is the most complete and authentic soccer experience for true soccer fans.

This year's action is deeper than ever with advanced levels of player detail and responsiveness. Plus, a new Career Mode gives you the chance to take a team from the lower divisions, battle through ranks, sign new players, and turn them into champions. With immersive atmospheres, total realism with the world's premier clubs, and industry-leading gameplay, FIFA Soccer 2004 returns as the true authority in soccer gaming.

### FIFA SOCCER 2004 Key Features

- \* Off the Ball™ Control: Take control of players away from the ball, and run them into space for attacking passes or gain valuable position during dead ball kicks.

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- \* Immersive Environments: More than 300 new crowd chants at an ever growing list of officially licensed stadiums

help put you in the best seat in the house.

- \* Play With The Best: More than 500 official licenses, including 16 leagues, 350 teams and 10,000 players. From Europe's super leagues to the Americas Club Championship, FIFA Soccer 2004 has the most authentic selection of the world's best.

- \* A Game With No Boundaries: Go online and take on opponents from anywhere in the country (PlayStation®2 and PC only).

**FIFA 2004 Question: Who won the Champions League last year?**

Send your answer to [absw@foreignlanguage.com.au](mailto:absw@foreignlanguage.com.au) titled FIFA 2004 Give-a-way - winners will be announced in two-weeks so get your answers in EA-SPORTS - ITS IN THE GAME



## The Lions — 2003 Champions of Queensland

133 Pine Road, Richlands. QLD

Phone: (07) 3271 3636 • Fax: (07) 3271 3804



By Paul Schiavo

## SUPER SUMMER LEAGUE

### REDLANDS 2 QLD LIONS 5 HT 1-3

Qld Lions faced a difficult away trip to Redlands in the second round of fixtures in the Queensland Super Summer League. The young Lions were looking to improve after last week's defeat at the hands of the Palm Beach Sharks and the indications were promising early on.

After three minutes Lions were almost on the board. A through ball caught the Redland's defense square and Jayce Gilchrist found himself one on one with the keeper.

Redland's keeper, Brett Pennisi did well to

smother Gilchrist's effort only to see the ball fall to Ross Fenech who beat the keeper but not the last defender on the line.

Redlands were next to look dangerous when a through ball found Daniel Gardiner faced with only keeper Luke Steward, who seemed to slip as he was coming out to shut down the attacker. Fortunately for Lions, Gardiner hit his shot straight at Steward and out for a corner.

In the 10th minute, Jayce Gilchrist saw Pennisi off his line and from 25 metres tried a chip that went only just wide of the target. It wasn't long before the Lions' pressure finally paid dividends.

Ross Fenech won the ball in midfield and his through ball found Josh Chelepy who rounded Pennisi and slid the ball into an open goal.

### Redlands 0 Qld Lions 1

Redlands had little time to recover before Lions had their second. In the 16th minute, a long throw taken by Jayce Gilchrist landed at the feet of Ben Cavanough who had time and space to control the ball and tuck it neatly under an advancing Pennisi in the Redland's goal.

### Redlands 0 Qld Lions 2

Lions had come to terms with a pitch that had been shortened somewhat and their passing game was providing the go forward especially in midfield. Lions were stretching the Redlands defense and managing to get behind their back four. In the 25th minute, a cross-field pass found Jayce Gilchrist on the left. He took on his defender before setting up Josh Chelepy, whose strike was charged down by a Redland's defender.

However Gilchrist didn't have to wait long for his first and Lions' third goal. The Redland's defense was caught square once again and a through ball found Gilchrist who calmly rounded the keeper for the easiest of finishes.

### Redlands 0 Qld Lions 3

The match was only 26 minutes old yet it seemed all but over. Lions were continuing to create chances that should have put the match out of Redland's reach, however in the 35th minute Redlands found a reply. After the ball was crossed in from the left, a Lion's defender cleared the ball straight to Nick Broomham who from inside the area made no mistake.

### Redlands 1 Qld Lions 3

Redlands was back in the match after looking down and out only minutes earlier. Lions looked for a quick reply and in the 40th minute, they came close.

Fine work on the left by James Rodden saw the midfielder whip in his cross along the six-yard box only for a Redland's defender to get there just before substitute Iannis Simos.

A minute later, it was Lions that looked likely to score. Good work again by Rodden on the

left, saw his cross reach Jayce Gilchrist whose turn and strike from the edge of the area was well saved by Pennisi.

Just on the stroke of half time Gilchrist found himself one on one with Pennisi but his left foot strike went just wide of the right hand upright.

### HALF TIME

### Redlands 1 Qld Lions 3

Both coaches made a number of changes at half time but it was Lions who began the second half where they left off the first with a number of early chances.

Two minutes into the second half Jayce Gilchrist found himself unmarked on the edge of the area with only the keeper to beat, after fine play between Matt Selea and Travis Reimers on the right. His shot struck Pennisi and looped over the cross bar.

Redlands profited immediately from this Lion's error. From the restart, what seemed like a harmless through ball caused confusion in the Lion's defense and Daniel Gardiner beat Luke Steward to the ball on the edge of the area for Redland's second.

### Redlands 2 Qld Lions 3

Redlands had shown great fighting qualities to be within a goal of the Lions but coach Gary Johnson must have been disappointed in gifting Redlands two goals.

The game had a real ebb and flow to it now as both sides knew that the next goal would be vital. A minute after Redland's goal, Lions had a great chance to extend their lead.

Jayce Gilchrist beat his defender on the left before centering to substitute Ben Lynch whose strike went only just wide of the target. Lynch was in the action again minutes later after a free kick found him on the far post but his header again went only just wide.

However it was Lynch that made the game safe for Lions with a great goal on the break. Redlands had pushed forward in search of an equalizer but lost the ball in the middle of the park.

Lynch picked up the loose ball from just inside his half and ran at the Redland's defense. Beating one defender after another, he found himself with only the keeper to beat and he did so with a fine strike high into the roof of the net.

### Redlands 2 Qld Lions 4

To Redlands credit, it was Lion's keeper Luke Steward who was next called into action saving at the feet of Broomham after fine interchange of passes from a quick break.

The ball seemed to be following Ben Lynch as he had another opportunity to score in the 65th minute after Mathew Dobbin had beaten his marker on the left and whipped in an inch perfect pass, only for Lynch to miss the target from inside the "six".

Josh Chelepy had a chance to wrap the game up for Lions after a defense splitting pass but his attempted chip was wide of the goal. With ten minutes to go Lions finally made the game safe. A Matt Selea corner from the right landed at the far post where an unmarked Dobbin made no mistake to make the full time score:

### Redlands 2 Qld Lions 5

Lion's coach Gary Johnson was pleased with his team's performance.

"We could have had a bag full of goals in the second half. It was horrible football to watch at times but that's the way they wanted to play it and given the conditions, you had to match it. We had quicker and better players going forward than they did and as I said earlier, we could have had seven or eight."

"For a young and very inexperienced side it was a good confidence boost especially after working hard last week against a good side and coming away with nothing. I was especially pleased with the younger members of the squad, Matt Dobbin, Matt Selea, Shawn O'Neill and Chris Butler at the back. Credit also to Fernando Alves for working with the back four during the week. We look forward to our upcoming matches against Northern NSW, Rockdale and Toowoomba."

## SUMMER LEAGUE 2003

### Group 1 Round: 2

	P	W	L	D	For	Agst	Diff.	Pts
1 North Coast Suns	2	2	0	0	4	1	3	6
2 Palm Beach Sharks	2	2	0	0	4	2	2	6
3 Queensland Lions	2	1	1	0	6	4	2	3
4 Rockdale Rovers	2	1	1	0	3	4	-1	3
5 South West Qld	2	0	2	0	2	4	-2	0
6 Redlands United	2	0	2	0	4	8	-4	0

### Results for Round 2

North Coast Suns	2	Rockdale Rovers	0
Queensland Lions	5	Redlands United	2
Palm Beach Sharks	2	South West Qld	1

### Group 2 Round: 2

	P	W	L	D	For	Agst	Diff.	Pts
1 Easts Tigers	2	1	0	1	6	1	5	4
2 Peninsula Power	2	1	0	1	4	1	3	4
3 Sunshine Coast Hawks	2	1	1	0	3	3	0	3
4 Wynnum Wolves	2	1	1	0	3	4	-1	3
5 Pine Rivers United	2	1	1	0	4	7	-3	3
6 North Star	2	0	2	0	2	6	-4	0

### Results for Round 2

Pine Rivers United	4	North Star	2
Easts Tigers	1	Peninsula Power	1
Wynnum Wolves	3	Sunshine Coast Hawks	1



# PREMIERSHIP BIZARRO

*Nige and Derek here again from BananaTV's Premiership Bizarro. Each week we give you the news and our views from around the grounds of the EPL.*

This week we start off with transfer bollocks a plenty, depending on which version of reporting you choose to believe, Michael Owen is on his way out of Liverpool. That seems fair enough, but to where, is the next question.

Our favourites, the British tabloids, will tell you that Becks is saying come on down to a Real sangria and sunshine life style where you can load up on the hotel bill. 'We will welcome him with open arms. I love you Michael.'

If your tittle is the American style, you will read that Becks is saying that he would recommend the club to anyone, but is pouring ice cold San Miguel on speculation that Owen will take his card playing prowess to the Bernabau. We think that if Owen does appear in the "all-white", Real will try to convert him to a sweeper and he will set a record for own goals.

Why wouldn't Becks be recommending the club to anyone when you can rack up a 400 grand hotel bill in four months? Derek and myself would love to come along and we bet we could do a better of a job of blowing the budget, better than Becks could ever imagine, and play football on the weekend. Keep your eyes on this space for the next silly instalment of where Michael Owen will be playing his football next season.

Now down to the serious filth and Nige's favourite subject, slagging off Robbie Fowler. Much to our dismay, Fowler scored a goal on the weekend. His 1st in the EPL this season and for Nige's prediction to come true, there are only 47 shopping days to Xmas.

Nige is standing by his prediction that Fowler will only score 1 goal before the festive season. Why is Nige so confident?

Last week the 62 grand a week super flop, was out on the town rolling his ciggies and getting stuck into plenty of tequila chasers. He was so mullered that when staff sprinkled salt on the back of his hand, he snorted it. That would have

to be painful.

Never mind that, Fowler, married with 3 daughters, breaks off the drinking, grabs a blonde slapper and goes for some tonsil tickling. Fowler wasn't alone on this escapade, there were a few of his teammates for support, and between the lot of them they did 200 drinks in a 2hr period, now that is motoring! Derek and myself are the only other boozers we know that could match that kind of input.

Banana TV



Premiership Bizarro

Keegan has said that no club rules have been broken and hopes that his superstar boozers have learnt a lesson. We don't think that Fowler's missus will see it that way.

There is also more trouble in

Manchester Town. Kev Keegan, noted less for his man management skills and more for his quitting skills, has run into trouble with star sulking striker Nicola Anelka.

Nicola decided that he wasn't going to go to a stupid team-bonding day at the clay pigeon shooting. Maybe Nic knew that having a gun would be an ideal opportunity to off a few teammates and decided that it was best to stay home.

Kev didn't quite see it that way and promptly dropped him from the squad for the Southampton game (Kev knew that Robbie Fowler was ready to go, after his night on the turps).

Nicola, then in the fashion we are accustomed too, spat the dummy big time, and sulked like a girl as he sat in the stand to watch his team beat

The Saints. Kev is now making all kinds of excuses about a calf injury and all the games that need to be played. It's a shame that Anelka will not see it the same way.

Once again, keep an eye on this space, as this one is a long way from over.

Lets plummet the depths of the EPL where we find Leeds Utd, holding up the rest of the League. Things are going from bad to worse for this outfit. Derek has predicted that they will go down, and that is looking bang on the mark right now, even the Leeds website has given up on their cause.

The weekend debacle against The Ars was reported as a loss on the fixtures page, nothing bizarre about that we hear you say. The match was entered as lost when Leeds went 2-0 down which, as we now know, was only in the 1st half.

We are assuming that the person in charge of putting the scores up, cut his losses and went home, maybe next week he will take the rest of the season off and enter 'relegated' for the remaining fixtures.

There endith another week of Bizarro in the Premiership. You can tune your computer each week to [www.bananatv.com](http://www.bananatv.com) for all the latest bollocks.

## PRAGUE EYE PELIKAN



Anthony Pelikan is being eyed by Sparta Prague.

**C**hampions League regulars Sparta Prague are eyeing the Australian transfer market.

A Czech Republic insider has told tribalfutbol.com that Sparta are running the rule over several National League youngsters with a view to snapping up at least one player when the transfer window opens in January.

Melbourne Knights attacking midfielder Anthony Pelikan has been mentioned after producing an excellent start to the season.

It's understood the Knights could receive a hefty cash offer for the Australia U23 prospect, who almost moved to Croatian football in the winter.

It will prove shrewd business for the Knights, which had negotiated a big fee for Pelikan with Dinamo Zagreb, only for the deal to fall through at the last minute.

The Knights management are set to buck the trend of NSL clubs losing their best youngsters for next-to-nothing, with cashed-up Sparta prepared to pay big for the versatile Pelikan.

## Kisnorbo outstanding in Hearts UEFA triumph

**A**ussie defender Patrick Kisnorbo played in midfield last week and enjoyed an outstanding performance in Hearts' big 1-0 UEFA Cup triumph at Bordeaux.

A regular at left-back, Kisnorbo was pushed forward by boss Craig Levein into a defensive midfield position in front of the back three.

The Australia international was judged inside the best top three performers on the night by watching UEFA

technical officials.

Dutchman Mark de Vries grabbed the winner 12 minutes from time to give Hearts a crucial 1-0 lead to take back to Tynecastle.

Immediately after the match, Kisnorbo was quick to tell tribalfutbol.com: "The Hearts support was amazing - it was like we were playing at home!"

"There was over 3,000 of us here on the night and it was absolutely magnificent." On his personal performance, Kisnorbo added,



Hopeful Soccerroo Patrick Kisnorbo had a sterling match for Hearts against Bordeaux in last week's UEFA Cup.

"The gaffer pushed me into midfield and we played with a 3-6-1."

"We kept Bordeaux at arm's length for a lot of the game and I was lucky enough to make some decent interceptions when they were putting pressure on us in the second-half."

"The whole team was outstanding. It's just amazing. I'm just so happy for the fans, they were absolutely magnificent and to repay them with this result makes it a brilliant night for the club."

## SEKULOVSKI A POWER BOY

**P**arramatta Power have snapped up former Wollongong Wolves and Gippsland Falcons midfielder Naum Sekulovski.

Power coach Nick Theodorakopoulos swooped for the left-sided winger after handing him a trial match against Leichhardt Tigers on Wednesday night. Sekulovski scored and was impressive in the 3-0 win.

The versatile attacker was with Wollongong Wolves last season and attracted serious interest from Marconi

over the winter.

It was believed that Naum would sign for JP's side but the offer fell through last minute.

There was talk that Sekulovski would take part in this year's Victorian Premier League but coach Nick Theo had thrown the 21-year-old another chance to strut his stuff in the National League.

Naum becomes the Power's tenth signing for this season, bookies have firmly placed the side as the front-runners to take out the league this year.



Naum Sekulovski has become yet another Parramatta Power signing.

## Young Soccerroos lose two

**A**ustralia was beaten 2-1 by Colombia in the U-20 four-nation soccer tournament in South Korea.

Colombia scored in the 17th and 64th minutes before substitute Anthony Danze pulled a goal back with a header.

Both sides had a player dismissed in the closing stages of the match with the Australians losing defender David Tarka for a dangerous tackle ten minutes from time.

"The game was exactly what we needed. A good quality game against a good opponent."

"We showed some good signs and obviously the most important thing is now that the players have played against a good opponent and it is probably a step-up in terms of the opposition we have had up to now for all these guys and they now realise what is required."

"It (the game) was ideal for us and it is the first South American opposition we have faced."

"For the first period of the game, we were playing well but the guys were still finding their feet."



Anthony Danze got on the scoresheet for the Young Roos against the Colombians last week.

"Apart from the two goals they (Colombia) didn't really cause any problems. We defended really well - the back four and the midfield four worked

quite well so defensively we were quite comfortable. We got in some great positions but we may have lacked a little bit of belief. It was the first time the guys have faced opposition like this and it took them a little while to get into the swing of it", Postecoglou stated after the match.

South Korea and Slovakia are the other nations in the tournament which is a warm-up for the FIFA World Youth Championship beginning later this month in the United Arab Emirates.

The Young Soccerroos also suffered their second defeat from as many games in a four-nation tournament in South Korea, going down 1-0 to Slovakia.

The Australians conceded a 36th minute goal against one of the European qualifiers for this year's FIFA World Youth Championship to be played later this month in the United Arab Emirates.

The Young Soccerroos will rounded out the tournament with a match against host nation South Korea last Saturday, before playing a one-off match against Japan in Tokyo next Wednesday.



# Green & Gold Army Series

Green & Gold Army  
http://www.ggarmy.com

## S O C C E R N O O S

AUSSIES UNITE – SEND US YOUR SONGS

One thing the RWC has highlighted is this: Aussie sport fans need to learn to sing at the football. Waltzing Matilda is great – but it is only one song. Have you got an Aussie sporting anthem or a great soccer song you can adapt to the Green and Gold? Let us know by e-mailing [madmacca@ggarmy.com](mailto:madmacca@ggarmy.com)

Virgin Blue \$39 Flights for January -  
COME WATCH THE OLYROOS

They aren't a GGArmy sponsor but they should be! We have plenty of our fans spreading the word about their great new fares. Virgin have some insane \$39 deals to fly around Oz in the new year...so there's no excuse to not be in Sydney for the Olyroos Olympic qualifiers in January. A full match schedule can be found on [ggarmy.com](http://ggarmy.com) so log on and book your flights today!

Danielle Byrnes - Socceroo Jersey Winner

Danielle was the lucky winner of a Socceroos shirt as part of our recent membership give away. To learn about Danielle or her fellow GGArmy fans of the month, log on to [ggarmy.com](http://ggarmy.com). If you feel that you are the ultimate Socceroo fan then why not drop us a line and nominate yourself as a GGArmy fan of the month?

The Green and Gold Army – Australia's national soccer supporters group



Join free at [ggarmy.com](http://ggarmy.com)



## Harry Kewell can't help the Olyroos

By Mark van Aken

With the OFC's Olympic Qualifying tournament set down for just over two months time in Sydney and Auckland, it is a good time to examine some issues pertaining to the Olyroos a little under a year out from Athens.

Olympic soccer has been somewhat of the ugly sister of the game – that's not to say it doesn't have its own charm and appeal. More than 94,000 crammed the MCG for the Olyroos against Italy in 2000 and over 104,000 watched the final 3 weeks later in Sydney. In between we witnessed a great number of fixtures in front of some healthy crowds right around Australia.

have hoped for the same. By the end of the Group stage Australia's sons and daughters had let in no less than 12 goals, half a dozen for each side. The Olyroos managed 3 goals for, the girls only 2.

The more staggering fact in the whole equation is that the Olyroos class of 2000 housed no less than 8 current Socceroos. Viduka, Skoko and Lazaridis formed the 'over-age' contingent as well as Emerton, Neill, Bresciano, Grella and Foxe. These names will no doubt form the nucleus of the Socceroos class of 2006.

National coach Frank Farina, whose job description includes running the Olympic program, has indicated that he is going to head into Athens without any over-age players. The Olyroos last hit out was in early September when they fell to

saying he would not entertain selecting the permitted 3 over-age players for the Athens team as he thought it affected team balance. When further probed if someone like Harry Kewell would be a nice addition to the team, he was quite emphatic in answering no.

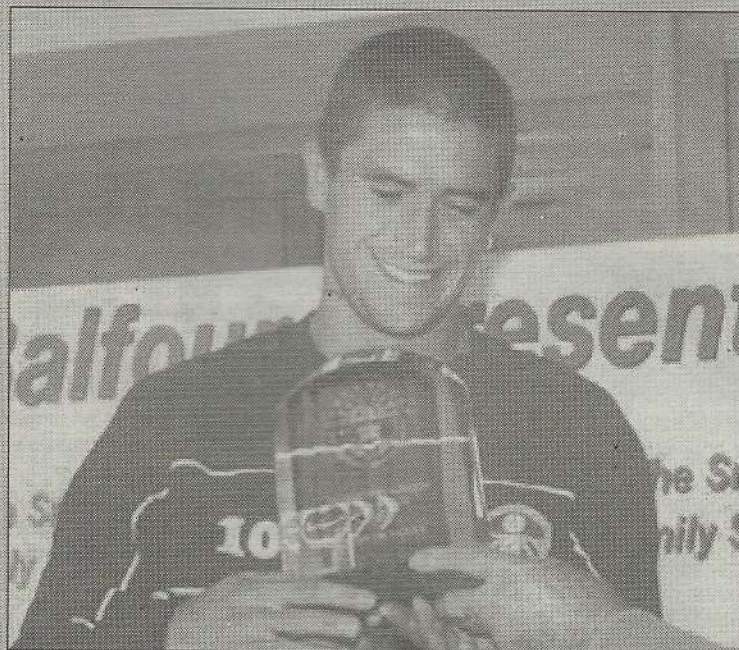
Australia certainly wouldn't be the first country to head to an Olympics sporting only Under 23 talent. In 2000 Italy, Brazil, Honduras, Spain and the Czech's went solely for youth. However the other 11 teams, including Australia and finalists Cameroon selected some experience to add icing on the cake of their Olympic teams. Since FIFA introduced the 23 and under format for Barcelona '92 it has provided an avenue for wiser heads to mingle amongst the fresh faces of the green and gold. There seems little to suggest the same wouldn't or couldn't be the case next year.

Does Harry Kewell want to play in the Olympics? How about Marco Bresciano or even Paul Okon? Maybe, maybe not – but we don't know unless we ask them. The European season is long and arduous and another set of games in the heat of the Greek summer may not be every current Socceroos cup of tea. But don't tell me the wealth of leadership and skill that someone like Kewell or Craig Moore bring can't help the Olyroos right the wrongs of 2000.

This is for many Australians a shot at back to back 'home' Olympics. More than half a million people in Australia were either born in Greece or born of Greek parentage. Melbourne has the largest Hellenic population outside of Greece and is the fourth largest centre of Hellenism on earth – and Sydney isn't far behind. 2 of Australia's 12 NSL team lay claim to Greek foundations and many others across the country have played crucial parts in our national league at one stage or another.

Given all this, Greek-Australians should spread the word to the motherland and demand the green and gold become the official 2nd team of all Hellenic fans.

Whether they get support from their elders or not, heres hoping the Olyroos can find some form and raise the bar for Aussie soccer on the world stage. The first step begins in Sydney in January – see you there!



Will Harry Kewell play for the Olyroos?

The 2000 Olympic football tourney left its legacy in terms of stadiums. Adelaide got a new Hindmarsh Stadium, Canberra Stadium became a fully-fledged quality ground and the Olympics were the catalyst behind turning the Gabba from an over-grown run down dog track to a World-Class venue.

The negatives were on the pitch itself. The Olyroos went in primed for a legitimate crack at a medal. The Matildas, with luck on home crowds on their side, would

the highly credentialed Turkish team 2-1 in Istanbul. At the time Farina was quite happy with the performance saying on [socceraustralia.com.au](http://socceraustralia.com.au) "to concede both goals from soft free kicks was really disappointing, but that is something we can work with more time together". Through no fault of his own, Farina won't get this 'time' until January and as such the Olyroos team game can only suffer.

Despite their infrequent playing schedule Farina was on record after the game as

## BEWARE OF THE MEDIA TEAM

Move over Parramatta Power, there's a new team in town – the Australian based Media side.

Having played as a curtain raiser to the big clash which saw the Power demolish the Glory six-nil, the media took on Sydney based match officials selected by esteemed former referee Robert Columbo.

The media had all guns firing in the right direction with an all-star line-up that included funny soccer man Andy Paschalidis, SMH's Michael Cockerill, ASA's Gary Moretti and Peter Smith, Zero1Zero's Harry Michaels, Power media man Dave Mason, Soccer NSW's media man Adam Mark, even ABSW photographer Carlos Furtado got into the action at Parramatta Stadium.

It was a day the media side will know never to forget after recording a three-nil victory

thanks to goals from Murray Shaw, David Mason and man of the match Nick Zorbas (brother of Power star Peter).

Played in front of around 500 spectators, SBS' Nick Zorbas, The West Australian's Jonathon Cook and Power media liaison David Mason were the pick of the media bunch.



Having secured a brilliant victory, the media's next task is to overcome the Parramatta Power corporate sponsors side on the 2nd of January.

ABSW will keep a close tab on the success of the media side – stay tuned.

### Starting line-up

GK - Andy Paschalidis

Defence (R to L) - Jonathan Cook (The West Australian), Michael Cockerill (Sydney Morning Herald), Gary Moretti (ASA), Phil Blatch (North Shore Times).

Midfield (R to L) - Peter Smith (ASA), Nick Zorbas (SBS TV), Murray Shaw (SKY TV Aust), David Cooper (ASA website).

Strikers - David Mason (PP media), Harry Michaels (Zero1Zero).

Subs - Adam Mark (Soccer NSW Media), Carlos Furtado (ABSW), Theo Katsaros (the worldgame website), Tom Bates (ASA), Dominte Rabsch (APM Institute).



The Australian-based media side in its glory after securing a three-nil victory.



# Viduka fined \$155,000



Leeds United have fined the V-Bomber \$155,000 for turning up late for a training session.

**L**EEDS UNITED striker Mark Viduka was fined a hefty week's wages of \$65,000 (\$155,000) by the Premiership side for turning up late for training.

The Australian international had a meeting with manager Peter Reid expecting to be fined two weeks wages.

"The manager is saying that he (Viduka) was disciplined and it is an internal matter," said a club spokesman who refused to reveal the amount.

Viduka turned up late for training and was then dropped for Saturday's game

with Arsenal which his team-mates lost 4-1 to send them plunging to the foot of the table.

This incident has added more fuel to the fire that the V-Bomber will be leaving Elland in the not too distant future.

It was billed that Viduka was on the move during the summer off-season with Serie A giants AS Roma as the likely destination for the big striker.

Fabio Capello's club might not be out of the mind of the former Melbourne Knights striker as the Italian club has been tracking the talented Socceroo star for quite some time now.

The club currently has Norwegian International John Carew on loan from Valencia till the end of the season but is not expected to sign for the following year.

Apart from Roma, various English clubs have also expressed their keen interests on the Aussie who has said that to be at his peak he must be playing in an elite competition.

Viduka's agent says he doesn't know what the future holds for the Socceroo striker, who looks likely to exit Leeds United.

Viduka has been linked with a shift from Elland Road for some months, with his manager Andrea D'Amico making no secret

of the fact that he has held talks with several European clubs.

And while no deal was done before the transfer window closed, Viduka's omission from the Leeds team that was thrashed 4-1 by Arsenal for disciplinary reasons is expected to see him move on when the window re-opens in January.

D'Amico told Sportinglife.com he is taking things 'day by day'.

"I don't know about Mark's future - I am working day by day," he said. "Mark is a professional, so he knows that during a career there are lots of things that can happen."

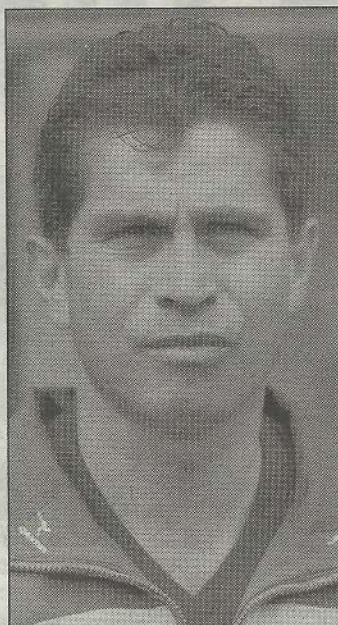
"This is just another moment in a career, and I think it can pass. He wishes the season had gone better for Leeds and himself."

At this stage Leeds United are sitting at the foot of the table and pundits have them as one of the first clubs to drop to next seasons First Division.

Controversy has struck more than once at the club apart from the club owing a large amount through debts, fellow striker Alan Smith has also been put under the spotlight after throwing a bottle at a fan during their Cup clash against rivals Manchester United two weeks ago.

# FARINA OPTIMISTIC ABOUT OLYMPICS SQUAD

By Franco Mula



Olympics coach Frank Farina is hoping for more friendly matches as part of their preparations for Athens next year.

**S**occeroo's coach Frank Farina is optimistic about his Olympic squad in preparation for the 2004 Olympics in Athens, Greece.

Farina so far has a 30-man squad at his disposal but unfortunately for him and his players, the team have only played two matches together, "we have had limited preparation and only played two games together as a team which is pretty ordinary," says Farina.

Farina is hoping that his team will get to play some more matches as his squad contains players from the NSL and European based clubs, "we have a good mixture of European based players and players from the NSL, which is good but we need to play some more matches and play against quality teams."

Farina who's first and foremost goal is to qualify for Athens next year is in good spirit and is taking things as they come, "for now we will concentrate on qualifying for the Olympics and take one step at a time but we have a great

squad and realistically can do well."

When asked if Andrew Durante was ever in Farina's plans for Athens 2004 Farina replied, "yeah he was included in my plans and he was named in our 30 man squad, but it is very unfortunate for him especially and for us that he sustained his injury."

Farina is currently waiting on FIFA and Oceania in making their decision for Australia's draw in relation to qualifying for the 2006 World Cup in Germany.

Australia has played some good international opponents so far against Ireland, Jamaica, and that memorable 3-1 win against England. But the more friendly games Australia play the more experience the squad will get and can only get better and better.

Farina commented that we have a good side but stressed we need play more matches, "we are looking good, we have a really good squad and when our international schedule comes out hopefully we will get to play some quality opposition," says Farina.

## Sean Douglas:

# Life after the NSL

**A**t 31, Sean Douglas appears too young to be discarded by the NSL. A leader wherever he has played, Douglas is currently working as player-coach at East Auckland after a distinguished club and international career.

A popular figure with fans and players, Douglas has taken on the responsibility of his Easts job with the same enthusiasm which saw win over 30 caps with the All Whites and also play in over 130 NSL games with Carlton and the Football Kingz. Douglas celebrates winning the Chatham Cup E'I now play for East Auckland FC - a combination of four clubs that got together to enter a team in the New Zealand National League," Douglas told tribalfutbol.com last week.

"I was also assistant coach for the side. In our first season we made the Grand Final, only to lose 3-2, with the winning goal coming in the 92nd minute. "I also played, and was assistant coach again, for Mt Wellington in the Chatham Cup competition - a national cup competition that is the oldest trophy in New Zealand sport. "We went all the way and won the Cup!" On his stay with the Kingz, Douglas admits several clashes with management forced him to rethink his NSL career.

"I had a poor season with the Kingz due to a number of

reasons - injuries, clashes with the coach, etc. So I wasn't offered another contract. "There are a few things that went on behind the scenes that have made me very bitter about the way it ended.

"It's my biggest career disappointment - the way my NSL (and professional) career ended. I could have easily played another 4-5 seasons had I stayed in Australia.

"But its time to move on and put my efforts towards making East Auckland a success." He added, "I loved my time in the NSL, and I am very excited by the prospect of the new league.

"I am also very excited by the changes occurring at Soccer Australia - I believe soccer can be huge in this part of the world, it just needs the right leadership, and Soccer in Australia seems to be heading in the right direction."

Will the Kingz be part of the new league? "In my opinion, the Kingz need a change in management," continued Douglas. "They could be a very popular club, but have constantly made mistakes.

"The team has yet to have a good pre-season in the four seasons they have been in the league. Most of this is due to the fact that the club doesn't seem to plan in advance. "The support is there, but they are doing a good job of

alienating it!"

Douglas and wife Kerry now run their newly launched sports apparel brand, 'Evolve', which is already being worn by local NZ teams. The ambitious couple also have signed with Italian boots manufacturer 'Pantofola Doro' to push the company throughout NZ.

"Our brand is called 'Evolve'," said Douglas. "We have been busy designing all the gear and putting processes in place. We have just signed on with a big manufacturer, so things are starting to fall into place.

"We have done a number of strips to test things out, including a top school in NZ, and a strip for an invitation side that played against the touring Scottish Premier League side Dunfermline. "We are also one of the few manufacturers to have a

specifically designed women's strip.

"As a part of our strategy to produce high quality gear, we are happy to be able to offer Pantofola Doro football boots throughout New Zealand."

Planning for life after football will take on a new focus soon with Kerry expecting their first child. "Yes, we have a young one due in 3-4 weeks," says Sean.

"It's going to be a big change in lifestyle, but one we are both looking forward to. We have decided not to find out what sex the baby is going to be, as we will be happy with just having a healthy baby." A new family and an exciting football venture, who needs the NSL when you have these things to look forward to?



Undecided - Steve Panopoulos has weighed up his options for a possible move to South America or a return to the NSL.

**F**ormer South Melbourne vice-captain Steve Panopoulos last week touched down again on Australian soil after an unsuccessful trial at Brazilian First Division club Fluminense.

Signs were there that the crafty midfielder would make the cut in the tenacious Brazilian league however things turned pear shaped when the club axed the coach

that was after Panopoulos' transfer.

"At one point I thought I was going to get a contract. But the coach got sacked and that destroyed me - it was 10 days before the transfer deadline and there was no time for the new coach to see me. But it has opened up a whole new life for me. It has taught me how to look after myself, ways to look at the game, how to perform on the ground and away from it and has given me a new perspective on football", Panopoulos stated to 'The Herald Sun'.

'Pana' was helped greatly by his lovely wife Andrea who hails from the Samba country.

The next step for the 28-year-old now is to find out whether playing in the National League again is an option or the dream of playing overseas once more?

"I'm pretty much open to everything. I know I can walk into any club in Australia and I haven't ruled out the possibility of going back to Brazil either", said 'Pana' to 'The Herald Sun'.

There is a stern scenario for Panopoulos that if he decides to return back to Brazil, then an agent from the South American country

would place the Australian in a club outside the big four to take part in the competition to start in January.

Currently out of contract in Australia, 'Pana' can sign with anyone in the National League as soon as possible without waiting for the transfer window to re-open in January.

His former club South Melbourne have not shown a keen interest in signing their former star but could end up playing at Bob Jane Stadium once more.

Current South Melbourne coach Stuart Munro and club president Peter Mitras did state that the door was not firmly open for Panopoulos after leaving the club in the lurch with his trials in Brazil.

The Blues signed Mike Panopoulos - no relation to Steve - from the Greek First Division. Since his transfer, Mike has not fared in many games for South but has slowly gained top fitness after spending at least two seasons out through injury.

One aspect Steve Panopoulos has stated though that he is currently in the best shape of his life after going through a number of high quality drills in Brazil.



Sean Douglas proves that there is life after the National League.



# MALONEY COPS FOUR

**M**ARCONI Stallions skipper Brad Maloney has received a four game suspension from the National Soccer League disciplinary tribunal last Monday evening.

Maloney, 31, came before the tribunal at the Australian Soccer Association offices at Homebush after being sent off for a first-half tackle on Andrew Durante on October 25 which left the Parramatta Power player with a badly

broken leg.

Durante, is expected to be out for nine to 12 months after requiring surgery for his broken tibia and fibula halfway up his shin.

Maloney had already been suspended for two matches before arriving for tonight's tribunal hearing.

He copped a one-match ban for the red card and another game for "an instance of serious foul play or dangerous tackle".

But Maloney last week received another two matches from the tribunal, bringing his total to four games.

However, the tribunal said Marconi's 2-0 loss to South Melbourne would count as part of Maloney's suspension.

He arrived to not only see if he would receive further penalty for the red card offence but also on an unsporting behaviour charge along with Marconi coach Jean Paul De Marigny.

Maloney and De Marigny were charged following "alleged gestures that occurred as Maloney departed the playing arena" for the red card offence.

He was believed to have touched fists with De Marigny as he left the field.

The tribunal of three independent legal experts decided to take no further action against De Marigny.



Brad Maloney (Top) was suspended for a further two weeks making his ban to four games.

# GLORY CONFIRM FIRST MATCH FOR REVAMPED STADIUM

**M**embers Equity Stadium will host its first NSL fixture on Saturday December 27 when Perth Glory takes on this season's surprise packet Brisbane Strikers.

The game becomes the inaugural fixture at Members Equity following advice from the Town of Vincent that the new stadium will not be ready for December 6 and the scheduled home clash against Sydney United.

That game will now, be rescheduled to Wednesday February 18, with a 7.30pm kick-off.

"We are very grateful to Sydney United and the Australian Soccer Association for their cooperation in rescheduling this game," said Perth Glory

Chief Executive Officer Jeff Dennis.

"They have helped to minimise disruption for our supporters, especially those travelling to Sydney for the Glory Shed Supporters Club Tour of Duty, which would have been disrupted if the fixtures had been swapped."

Mr Dennis also thanked

everyone involved. As one of the main tenants of Members Equity Stadium the club knows that the builders have done everything they can to keep work on track. Unfortunately the weather has beaten them.

"However, having seen Members Equity being transformed into a purpose built rectangular stadium, I have no doubt that the wait will be worthwhile."

"With fans enjoying greater comfort and being much closer to the action, the atmosphere will be absolutely sensational."

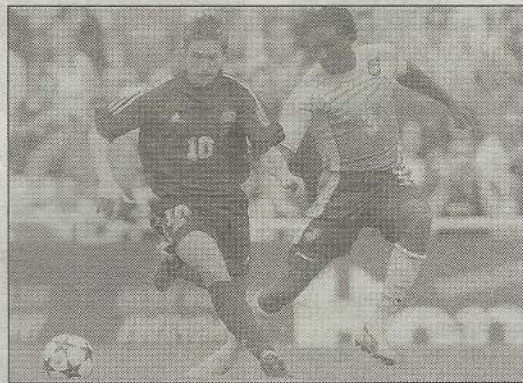
The game is the second to be switched with the fixture against Northern Spirit originally down for Wednesday January 7 now being played on Wednesday January 21.

the Town of Vincent for its early notice that the stadium will not quite be ready for December 6.

"It would have been easy to prevaricate but this early decision makes it easier on



# ROOS IN HIBERNATION



The Socceroos' last hit-out was against the Jamaicans as shown above with star Harry Kewell on the loose.

**T**he Socceroos will be in mothballs until at least February 2004 after an opponent couldn't be found for a proposed November international.

The Australian Soccer Association had been in negotiations with several European nations about fix-

tures on November 15 and 19, dates set aside for internationals by the game's governing body FIFA.

The ASA spoke to some leading European nations, among them teams which had already qualified for next year's European Championship.

ASA's first option had been to bring out a European nation to Australia for one or two games.

The second option was to try to arrange a fixture in Europe for Australia, where most of the leading Socceroos ply their trade.

ASA spokesperson Gary Moretti said his organisation could not begin negotiations until after the European Championship qualifiers concluded in mid October, but was unable to secure an opponent in the short intervening period.

"The Australian Soccer Association was unable to negotiate an international match for the Socceroos for the November 15 and 19 international dates," Moretti said last week.

"Despite our best endeavours we were unable to

secure an opponent to travel to Australia in the middle of the European season."

Moretti said negotiations had started with some European nations to play matches against the Socceroos in the first half of next year.

He said the ASA hoped to announce its Socceroos schedule for the first half of 2004 by the end of this year.

The first three international dates set aside by FIFA for 2004 are February 18, March 31 and April 28.

The ASA is looking to lock in the Socceroos schedule for the first half of the year prior to June 2004 when it sends a team to the Oceania Nations Cup, which doubles as the qualifying tournament for the 2005 Confederations Cup.

# NSL REFORM SOUTH'S MAJOR CHALLENGE



South Melbourne CEO Mark Patterson.

**'F**ans urged to support club or miss out on new league'. The winds of major soccer reform in Australia threaten the existence of foundation NSL club South Melbourne.

This is the stark message taken away by the club's two most senior officials after they returned from an NSL meeting in Sydney last week.

Club President Peter Mitrakas and Chief Executive Mark Patterson returned from Sydney with this open and honest warning to the club's supporters. "There is a strong view in soccer that reform must be radical and teams will need to prove that it has the business and marketing ability to take the game forward" said Patterson.

"While we are very supportive of the reforms and excited about South's potential involvement we have some major challenges to address. We must be clear there will be trade-offs for South Melbourne. The performance bar will be raised higher than ever and as a club we must raise the bar in every area of our operation, if we are to be serious contenders" Patterson said.

Crowd levels and the contribution that the fans make to the club will no

doubt be a key consideration for the NSL task force.

A critical area of performance will be the ability of the club to attract its fans to games. The objective is to get back to the crowd levels of 10,000 and more that were a feature of South's matches in the past.

Unfortunately many fans are under the misapprehension this season means little to soccer because of the reform however that could not be further from reality in particular because the winner of the championship this year will most likely participate in the FIFA World Club Championships in 2005.

South Melbourne is a foundation member of the National League, however it is clear to South's top men that this alone will not assure the club entry into the new competition, and it will be the fans of South who also need to

The NSL task force will report its findings to the Australian Soccer Association Board on 1st December.

"The new league will be a new and totally different competition and probably unrecognisable to the existing NSL. "We are not talking about modifications to the old competition, we are talking about major and wholesale change to the face of national soccer in this country" Patterson said.

South Melbourne's fans must now show strength in numbers at home games or be prepared for its club to simply accept that it is not good enough to participate at the highest level. There are no guarantees of a reform league membership for any of the existing clubs and South Melbourne is no exception.

Sunday evenings clash with one of the leading teams Marconi has been the

*We are playing good, exciting and positive soccer and we are asking the fans to back the team and the club by putting bums on seats"*  
— Mark Patterson (South Melbourne CEO)

understand the influence they will have as to whether the club will continue in the country's top competition or not.

"Our ability to attract crowds over the next few weeks will send a very clear message to the powers that be as to whether South Melbourne are serious contenders or not and we need to attract sustainable fans and membership support" said Mitrakas.

So far this season South has attracted only average support, which is worrying to the club as it is very keen to push for participation at the top level.

talking point in soccer for different reasons this week after an incident packed match last week in Sydney. A poor crowd will not be a good sign for South Melbourne's future in the reformed league.

"We want to embrace change and be positive but we want the fans to show us that they are serious about wanting us to represent their soccer interests. We are playing good, exciting and positive soccer and we are asking the fans to back the team and the club by putting bums on seats" said Patterson.





# National Soccer League



After Round 8	TOTAL							PTS	HOME						AWAY					
	P	W	D	L	BYE	F	A		P	W	D	L	F	A	P	W	D	L	F	A
PARRAMATTA POWER	8	5	2	0	0	19	3	17	4	3	1	0	14	1	3	2	1	0	5	2
PERTH GLORY	7	5	1	1	1	14	10	16	2	2	0	0	4	0	5	3	1	1	10	10
NORTHERN SPIRIT	8	4	0	4	0	16	12	12	4	2	0	2	11	8	4	2	0	2	5	4
MARCONI STALLIONS	8	3	3	2	0	10	9	12	5	2	2	1	6	5	3	1	1	1	4	4
SOUTH MELBOURNE	7	3	2	2	1	10	3	11	3	2	0	1	6	2	4	1	2	1	4	1
SYDNEY UNITED	7	3	2	2	1	6	4	11	4	2	1	1	5	3	3	1	1	1	1	1
BRISBANE STRIKERS	7	3	2	2	1	7	7	11	3	1	2	0	3	2	4	2	0	2	4	5
NEWCASTLE UTD	8	3	2	3	1	12	13	11	4	2	1	1	7	5	3	1	1	2	5	8
ADELAIDE UNITED	4	2	2	0	1	4	2	8	2	1	1	0	1	0	2	1	1	0	3	2
MELBOURNE KNIGHTS	7	2	1	4	0	6	12	7	3	0	1	2	2	4	4	2	0	2	4	8
SYDNEY OLYMPIC	7	2	1	4	0	4	11	7	4	1	0	3	2	6	3	1	1	1	2	5
WOLLONGONG WOLVES	7	1	0	6	1	3	14	3	3	0	0	3	0	6	4	1	0	3	3	8
KINGZ	6	0	0	6	1	5	15	0	4	0	0	4	3	10	2	0	0	2	2	5

**WOLLONGONG WOLVES** .....0  
**SYDNEY OLYMPIC** .....1  
*(P Cardozo 74' pen)*

Referee: Con Diomis. Crowd: 2,251. Venue: WIN Stadium

**Teams:** WOLLONGONG WOLVES: Crews, Dragas, Timpano, Hughes, Hawrysiuk, Lyons, Arrarte (DeGiovanniello 81'), Young, Majurovski (Gordon 73'), Cummins, Blake.  
**Subs Not Used:** Andrews, Whalan (gk).  
**SYDNEY OLYMPIC:** Hughes, Souris, Kohler, Juric, Schirripa, Fyfe, Cardozo, Karlovic, Augerinos (Bakis 81'), Ishida, Caravella.  
**Subs Not Used:** Kladis, R Cardozo, Moss (gk).  
**Cautions:** S Lyons (WW) 38', D Cummins (WW) 59', J Schirripa (SO) 64'.  
**Red Cards:** D Cummins (WW) 73'.

**KINGZ** .....0  
**NORTHERN SPIRIT** .....2  
*(D Macallister 55' pen, I Ferguson 68' pen)*

Referee: Brett Hugo. Crowd: 1,662. Venue: Ericsson Stadium.

**Teams:** AUCKLAND KINGZ: Nicholson, Midtsian, Collins, Tambouras, Jackson, Burton, Campbell, Ngata, Donoso, Schjerven, Harries (Martin 38').  
**Subs Not Used:** Rowley, Scott, Townsend (gk).  
**NORTHERN SPIRIT:** Henderson, Watts, O'Sullivan, Spencer, Tomasevic, Ferguson, Macallister (Hunter 89'), Hutchinson, Groves (Baveas 87'), Petrie, Osman (Kwasnik 75').  
**Subs Not Used:** Page (gk).  
**Cautions:** J Hutchinson (NS) 41', S Petrie (NS) 78'.  
**Red Cards:** S Petrie (NS) 79'.

## PLAYER OF THE WEEK



Sydney United's little maestro Anthony Doumanis picked up this week's ABSW player of the year after scoring twice and playing superbly against the Strikers last week.

The 21-year-old was in a spot of bother a few weeks back after picking up a red card against Olympic.

Credit to the attacking midfielder, he put everything behind him and after last week's performance, bigger things are said to be coming from the crafty star.

**PARRAMATTA POWER** .....4  
*(A Kovacic og 37', A Milicic 54', 62', T Dodd 78')*  
**MELBOURNE KNIGHTS** .....0

Referee: Peter Green. Crowd: 1,683. Venue: Parramatta Stadium.

**Teams:** PARRAMATTA POWER: Bolton, Ceccoli, Colosimo, Beauchamp, Thompson (Zorbas 77'), Dodd (Rech 84'), Gumprecht, Milicic, Sobczyk, Buonavoglia (Pantelis 63'), Elrich.  
**Subs Not Used:** Vukovic (gk).  
**MELBOURNE KNIGHTS:** Tomich, Zilic (Natsioulas 46'), R Vargas, Kovacic, Sabljak, Ravov (Fa'Arodo 46'), Erdogan, Leijer, A Vargas, Pelikan (Oksuz 76'), Waite.  
**Subs Not Used:** Zilic (gk).  
**Cautions:** A Ceccoli (PP) 92', S Zilic (MK) 41'.

**MARCONI STALLIONS** .....0  
**ADELAIDE UNITED** .....0

Referee: Craig Zetter. Crowd: 1,820. Venue: Marconi Stadium.

**Teams:** MARCONI STALLIONS: Turnbull, Longo, Costanzo, Casserly, Last, Gibson, Spiteri, Thwaite, Harris, Carle, Renaud.  
**Subs Not Used:** Webb, Brodie, Anabalon, Alogdellis (gk).  
**ADELAIDE UNITED:** Scarsella, Alagich, Rees, Goulding, Valkanis, Aloisi, Veart, Vidmar, Lozanovski (Terminello 61'), Westervelt (Demourtzidis 75'), Kemp (Pellegrino 70').  
**Subs Not Used:**  
**Cautions:** L Casserly (MS) 35', G Last (MS) 54', J Spiteri (MS) 58', B Renaud (MS) 69', A Costanzo (MS) 84', A Vidmar (AU) 61', R Aloisi (AU) 64', A Westervelt (AU) 72'.  
**Red Cards:** J Spiteri (MS) 84'.

**PERTH GLORY** .....1  
*(B Despotovski 62' pen)*  
**SOUTH MELBOURNE** .....0

Referee: Simon Micallef. Crowd: 7,356. Venue: Arena Joondalup.

**Teams:** PERTH GLORY: Petkovic, Horsley (Faria 92'), Bingley, Hassell, Murphy, Miller, Despotovski, North, Byrnes, Pondeljak, Mori (Caceres 77').  
**Subs Not Used:** Coyne, Matassa (gk).  
**SOUTH MELBOURNE:** Galekovic, Osman (Recchia 87'), Panopoulos (Trimboli 78'), Kovacevic, Coveny, Boutsianis (Lohy 78'), Stergiopoulos, Laurie, Curcija, Poutakidis, Tunbridge.  
**Subs Not Used:** Theoklitos (gk).  
**Cautions:** D Mori (PG) 29', S Laurie (SM) 12', S Tunbridge (SM) 73'.

**SYDNEY UNITED** .....2  
*(A Doumanis 56' pen, 89', D Collina 7')*  
**BRISBANE STRIKERS** .....0

Referee: Matthew Breeze. Crowd: 2,756. Venue: Sydney United SC

**Teams:** SYDNEY UNITED: Reddy, Haliti (Heffernan 81'), Cunico, Vrkic, Huxley, Parisi (B Santalab 57'), Collina, Markovic, Ivanic (Babic 74'), Rudan, Doumanis.  
**Subs Not Used:** Necevski (gk).  
**BRISBANE STRIKERS:** Higgins, Dodd, Stefanutto, McCloughan, McLaren (Rose 77'), Grierson, Fitzsimmons (Brain 69'), Brownlie, Pilic, Moon, Morley.  
**Subs Not Used:** Webber, Kearton (gk).  
**Cautions:** J McCloughan (BS) 53', K Dodd (BS) 78'.

## ROUND 9

Fri 14-11-03

Newcastle Utd vs Sydney United  
Wollongong Wolves vs Parramatta Power  
Sat 15-11-03

Marconi Stallions vs Brisbane Strikers  
Sun 16-11-03

Sydney Olympic vs Football Kingz  
Melbourne Knights vs South Melbourne  
Adelaide Utd vs Perth Glory  
Wed 19-11-03 (R2 Fixture)  
Adelaide Utd vs Parramatta Power  
Northern Spirit - Bye

## LEADING GOALSCORERS

Name	Club	Total
MILICIC Ante	Parramatta Power	7
COVENY Vaughan	Sth Melbourne	6
MORI Damian	Perth Glory	5
PELIKAN Anthony	Melbourne Knights	5
PETRIE Stewart	Northern Spirit	5
DODD Travis	Parramatta Power	5
MACALLISTER Dylan	Northern Spirit	4

**BYE - NEWCASTLE UTD**





### *Superstar Profile #6*

Name: Roberto Baggio  
D.O.B: 18/2/67  
Nationality: Italian  
City of Birth: Caldogno - Italy  
Weight: 73kg  
Height: 174cm  
Team: Brescia



# 'True blue collectables'

Finally Australia has a memorabilia company that specialises in Soccer! **True blue collectables**, a Sydney based company, is proud to announce that it has agreed with Harry Kewell to be his sole and EXCLUSIVE producer of his memorabilia in Australia.

This is fantastic news for Kewell, Liverpool and all Soccer fans as it will guarantee authenticity of Harry's signature to ensure you get what you pay for.

It also assures that you will be receiving a quality product produced using only acid-free matt boards and timber mouldings that live up to Harry Kewell's own high standards.

**True blue collectables** will be producing a stunning range of items catering for all Soccer fans and as they are the exclusive producer, you can save by buying direct from the manufacturer. You will not be disappointed.

With Harry now considered one of the top players in the World, it makes his memorabilia a "must have" for the discerning collector and Soccer fanatics.

This year saw Harry transfer from the only club he has known since he was 16 years old to the side he dreamt of as a child, Liverpool.

He also scored in both of Australia's monumental victories versus England and Jamaica, including the game winner in the latter.



Harry Kewell and fan

In July 2003, Harry turned down advances and big money offers from Manchester United, Arsenal and Chelsea to pursue his dream. He now proudly wears the famous red jersey of the most successful Football side in English history, Liverpool.

All of Harry's memorabilia is fully licensed by **True blue collectables** including a Certificate of Authenticity with an image of the signing, as well as A-Tag authenticity.

A-Tag is a 3rd party organisation that attend all of tbc's signings with Harry and add technology, including microchips and laser foils, to the memorabilia.

This is your assurance that the item is genuine. It also protects your investment by being able to register your purchase on a nation-wide database.

**True blue collectables** is very excited to be able to bring you some Special pieces of Soccer history.

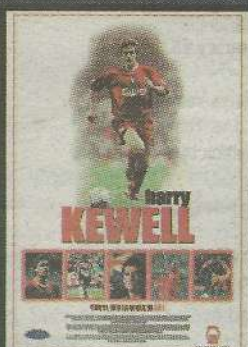
To bc also salutes Harry, as he becomes a world-renowned athlete and superstar. Along with this meteoric rise, **True blue collectables** has now made available some simply magnificent memorabilia that will be a showpiece for generations to come.

See on this Page 5 for our Special Christmas offers.

If it isn't **True blue collectables**, it isn't.

## Gifts, Goals & Heroes

True blue collectables is proud to bring you the STARS of World Soccer. As we are the Exclusive producer of Memorabilia for Harry Kewell, we have some amazing showpieces at great prices just in time for Christmas. Harry is wowing fans and opponents in the Premier League and as Australia's greatest soccer player, the sky is the limit. These pieces below represent the best of Harry Kewell memorabilia and soccer fans are sure to highly treasure these as stunning showpieces from world soccer superstars.



Harry Kewell's story of growing up Sydney with a dream of playing for the Liverpool FC. Stunning unsigned print with breathtaking images from Kewell's new side as well as the Socceroos. Limited to 950 worldwide. Fully Framed Size: 520 x 800mm.

**ONLY \$199**  
plus \$25 shipping



Michael Owen - He continues to break record for club and country and he is still only 23. Looks sure to become one of the all-time greats, especially now that he has teamed up with our boy, Harry. Hand signed autograph has been included with two stunning photos and plaque of his statistics. Fully Framed size: 450 x 780mm.

**ONLY \$495**  
plus \$25 shipping

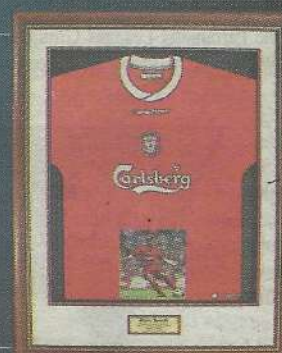
Best of both worlds, not only does this piece have a stunning photo of Harry Kewell playing for the Socceroos versus England, but also his dream club, Liverpool. Included in the collage is a beautiful hand-signed autograph of Harry Kewell and a large plaque with all of Harry's details. Fully Framed size: 470 x 790 mm.

**ONLY \$495**  
plus \$25 shipping



An Official Reebok Liverpool home jersey has been signed by superstar Harry Kewell boldly and clearly. Has been authenticated by the A-Tag Company and looks amazing. Signed by Harry just before the friendly versus Jamaica. Fully framed with acid free matt boards and quality timber moulding. Fully Framed size: 850 x 1020 mm.

**ONLY \$995**  
plus \$25 shipping



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from the

# dressing sheds

by Mark Stavroulakis



## NEW SYDNEY CLUB TO HIT LEAGUE?

Rumors have circulated around the playing fields of the National League that a new Sydney-based club is set to emerge next season as part of the new reformed Australian Premier League.

It looks as though the ASA will look towards cutting the amount of teams to ten and with that comes the news that a few Sydney sides will miss out. Tradition or not, it's all about the money and if clubs fail to pay the amount required by the new board then it's 'bye bye Charlie'.

Rumors of a former chairman of a National League side and a two-time NSL championship winning coach have been the talking point of what the new team will base itself around.

## OLYMPIC AT IT AGAIN!

Nothing short of yet another busy week in the rumor-mill, Sydney Olympic supporters in their forum have indicated that there could well be a new coach in-line for the Blues this season?

Purely talk, former Adelaide City coach Zoran Matic, Michael Urukalo and ex-Sydney Olympic coach John Sentas have appeared as front runners to replace current coach Peter Papanikitas.

Close sources to ABSW have stated however that 'Paps' is here to stay, and with two to three big name players set to come in January, the clubs fortunes could well change for the better.

It's also understood that Olympic are set to release Steve Karavatakis, Jim Nikas, Denis Allilovic, Michael Kladis, Anthony Papaluca and Jose Mendez at the start of the transfer window season.

'Paps' has stated to the players that it will be rather tough for the above mentioned players to crack a first team spot thus giving them the green light to venture elsewhere.

## FOUR FOR MALONEY

One of the most talked about issues in the Australian soccer world this year, Brad Maloney's red card against the Parramatta Power which saw Andrew Durante suffer a broken leg was last week ousted for four matches.

The experienced National League campaigner was given his fate last Monday at the ASA offices in Homebush.

Marconi coach JP was not fined for his alleged 'h-five' with Maloney after the red card incident but ASA officials will keep a keen eye on the Stallions and their behavior on the pitch.

It's no secret that Marconi have played their football with a lot of passion, but to rival National League clubs, it's been a bit too much for their liking.

## POWER LOOK TO WORLD STAGE

Parramatta Power boss Denis Fitzgerald has publicly offered a glimmer of hope that his club might stay alive in the wake of news that the lucrative World Club Championship is to be resurrected.

Power's backers, the Parramatta Leagues Group, are scheduled to withdraw from local soccer at the end of this season.

However, the prestige and prize money, which would be between \$4 million and \$6m for the Australian club associated with the WCC, could yet force a rethink, Fitzgerald told the Parramatta Sun Newspaper.

"This is the first I've heard of it, but if that's the case I guess we'd have to consider it," Fitzgerald said.

"To be honest, it's highly unlikely first we have to win the league but I can't rule it out."

FIFA president Sepp Blatter announced that the WCC first held in 2000 but since suspended would return in 2005 and would take place in Central America.

The tournament is open to the champions of each of the six confederations and may be expanded to have as many as 16 teams.

The decision is an enormous boost to the NSL, which is in its final season before a new league the Australian Premier League is set up either at the end of next year or in early 2005.

\*Source - Power Press Release



## PELIKAN BRIEFED

It's amazing to see that Melbourne Knights star midfielder/striker Anthony Pelikan is still playing his trade in Australia.

The exciting midfielder has caught the attention of many through his terrific performances over the years with the Knights.

The start of the year saw Pelikan's move to Croatian side Dinamo Zagreb fall through, a loss for the Croatian club nonetheless, his talents are being showcased once more in our NSL.

Surely his performances with the Knights have gained the attention of Olympics coach Frank Farina who will choose his squad in mid-December.

## MELBOURNE DO BATTLE THIS WEEK!

What a week it was in Melbourne, the good folk in Victoria had the pleasure of having the day off last Tuesday due to the Melbourne Cup but the festivities don't stop there.

The Melbourne Croatian Sports Centre aka Sommers Street will see the Melbourne Knights take on cross-town rivals South Melbourne.

Always a great encounter between the two, it should be a packed house - who will be the victor? Sunday 16th will be the day all will be revealed.

## CHRISTMAS COMES EARLY FOR SYDNEY UNITED

Christmas? Early at Sydney United? What the heck does that mean?

Well readers Brendon Santalab or also known as 'SANTA', has once again returned to Edensor Park to wear the red and white of Sydney United.

The 21-year-old recently returned from his very successful loan spell in Singapore with Geylang United where the pint-sized striker scored an amazing 23 goals in the S-League. Santalab was labeled as Australia's second top scorer internationally, striking partner at Geylang and former Sydney Olympic player Alex Duric is currently leading the Aussies Abroad goal listings with 32 to his name.

Santalab will surely add more punch to United's strike-force and after pulling through some tremendous displays in Asia, the youngster is keen on doing the same thing in Australia, hitting the back of the net.

## FULL-STEAM AHEAD FOR OLYROOS

The Australian Soccer Association (ASA) has confirmed the full January match schedule for the national Under-23 team as they prepare to compete in the 2004 Oceania Football Confederation (OFC) Men's Olympic qualifying tournament, including an eagerly awaited return to Perth for an international match.

The Under-23 side, led by senior team coach Frank Farina will be aiming to secure an historic first OFC direct qualification spot for the 2004 Olympic Games in Athens.

The 2004 OFC Men's Olympic qualifying tournament (Group A) will be held in Sydney between January 14 & 22, 2004.

Group A will consist of Australia, Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Samoa and the Solomon Islands while Group B, to be held in Auckland will feature New Zealand, Cook Islands, American Samoa, Tonga and Vanuatu.

The 2 group winners will then meet in a 'home and away' play-off on January 26 (home venue Group A winner) and January 30 (home venue Group B winner) to determine who will represent Oceania at the 2004 Olympic Games.

Australia will prepare for the qualifying tournament by playing Korea Republic Under-23 in two international friendlies, the first match in Sydney on January 4 with the second match in Perth on January 7.

The Perth match is confirmed for Members Equity Stadium and is the first international soccer match in the west since the Olyroos played Brazil in March, 1998.

Coach Frank Farina is due to announce his 20-man Under-23 squad in mid-December.

## COMPLETE JANUARY MATCH SCHEDULE IS:

Sunday, January 4, 2004 in Sydney  
Australia Under-23 Vs Korea Republic Under-23  
Wednesday, January 7, 2004 in Perth  
Australia Under-23 Vs Korea Republic Under-23

## 2004 OFC Men's Olympic Qualifying Tournament

Group A (Sydney, Australia)  
1. Australia  
2. Samoa  
3. Papua New Guinea  
4. Solomon Islands  
5. Fiji

## photo of the week



"Here's a kiss for you Luis" - Real Madrid's new star David Beckham shows that there is no tension and animosity between the two who

have really created a storm in both the Champions League and the Primera Liga.

Wednesday, January 14, 2004

Round 1:  
Papua New Guinea vs Solomon Islands 5:00pm  
Australia vs Samoa 7:30pm  
Fiji bye

Friday, January 16, 2004

Round 2:  
Australia vs Papua New Guinea 5:00pm  
Solomon Islands vs Fiji 7:30pm  
Samoa bye

Sunday, January 18, 2004

Round 3:  
Papua New Guinea vs Fiji 5:00pm  
Samoa vs Solomon Islands 7:30pm  
Australia bye

Tuesday, January 20, 2004

Round 4:  
Samoa vs Fiji 5:00pm  
Australia vs Solomon Islands 7:30pm  
Papua New Guinea bye

Thursday, January 22, 2004

Round 5:  
Samoa vs Papua New Guinea 5:00pm  
Australia vs Fiji 7:30pm  
Solomon Islands bye

Group B (Auckland TBC, New Zealand)

1. New Zealand  
2. Cook Islands  
3. American Samoa  
4. Tonga  
5. Vanuatu

Wednesday, January 14, 2004

Round 1:  
American Samoa vs Tonga 5:00pm  
New Zealand vs Cook Islands 7:30pm  
Vanuatu bye

Friday, January 16, 2004

Round 2:  
New Zealand vs American Samoa 5:00pm  
Tonga vs Vanuatu 7:30pm  
Cook Islands bye

Sunday, January 18, 2004

Round 3:  
Cook Islands vs Vanuatu 5:00pm  
New Zealand vs Tonga 7:30pm  
American Samoa bye

Tuesday, January 20, 2004

Round 4:  
Tonga vs Cook Islands 5:00pm  
American Samoa vs Vanuatu 7:30pm  
New Zealand bye

Thursday, January 22, 2004

Round 5:  
American Samoa vs Cook Islands 5:00pm  
New Zealand vs Vanuatu 7:30pm  
Tonga bye

\* All times are local in the host country

Final Play-off:

Monday, 26 January, 2004

First Playoff:  
Group A winner vs Group B winner

Friday, 30 January, 2004

Second Playoff:  
Group B winner vs Group A winner

## STOP PRESS: RADIO 98.5

Sydney ABSW Readers, for all the latest news and results on the National League and abroad, tune into 98.5 FM every Sunday evening's at 10PM for your weekly dose of football.

Led by ABSW's Italian and National League correspondent Joe Russo, 98.5's Italian correspondent Joseph Carlucci, English Premier League buff Stuart Jones and also ABSW Editor Mark Stavroulakis - opinions from these soccer experts have and will be voiced over live on air - Tune in to the real soccer station.



## 'STATE OF ORIGIN' STALEMATE

**NSW Sapphires**

**1**

**Queensland Sting**

**1**

by Janene Mar

**T**he top of the table clash between NSW Sapphires and Queensland Sting ended up with the points shared in a 1-1 draw.

The two teams remain a clear five points ahead of the chasing pack at the end of Women's National Soccer League Round 4.

Sydney's Valentine Park played host to the replay of last year's grand final, with the Sapphires keen to avenge that one goal loss to Queensland Sting, and neither willing to forfeit their undefeated run in the battle for this year's title.

Both teams suffered late withdrawals. The Sting were travelling without number one goalkeeper Belinda Kitching, while NSW were missing valuable attacking pair Michelle Carney and Jo Burgess.

The draining heat and humidity made for a slow

pace in the first half of play. As the clash unfolded, it became a very even tussle, both sides creating opportunities but neither able to provide the knock-out punch.

Catherine Cannuli almost gave the home side an early lead, but her strike from the indirect free kick was met by the outstretched hand of goalkeeper-cum-midfielder Zoe Nolan, tipping the ball against the bar and out.

After sending a couple of earlier free kick opportunities sailing over the target, Matilda midfielder Heather Garriock gave Queensland the lead late in the first half against her old team, and somewhat against the immediate run of play.

World Cup team mate Karla Reuter provided a dangerous through ball, causing some confusion in the NSW defence, and Garriock beat the outcoming goalkeeper with a chip over the top which bobbed in



Catherine Cannuli scored the equaliser for the Sapphires

over the line.

Before the half-time whistle, Matildas midfielder Taryn Rockall couldn't quite reach an inviting ball in from Leah Blayney and a chance to level for Sapphires passed away.

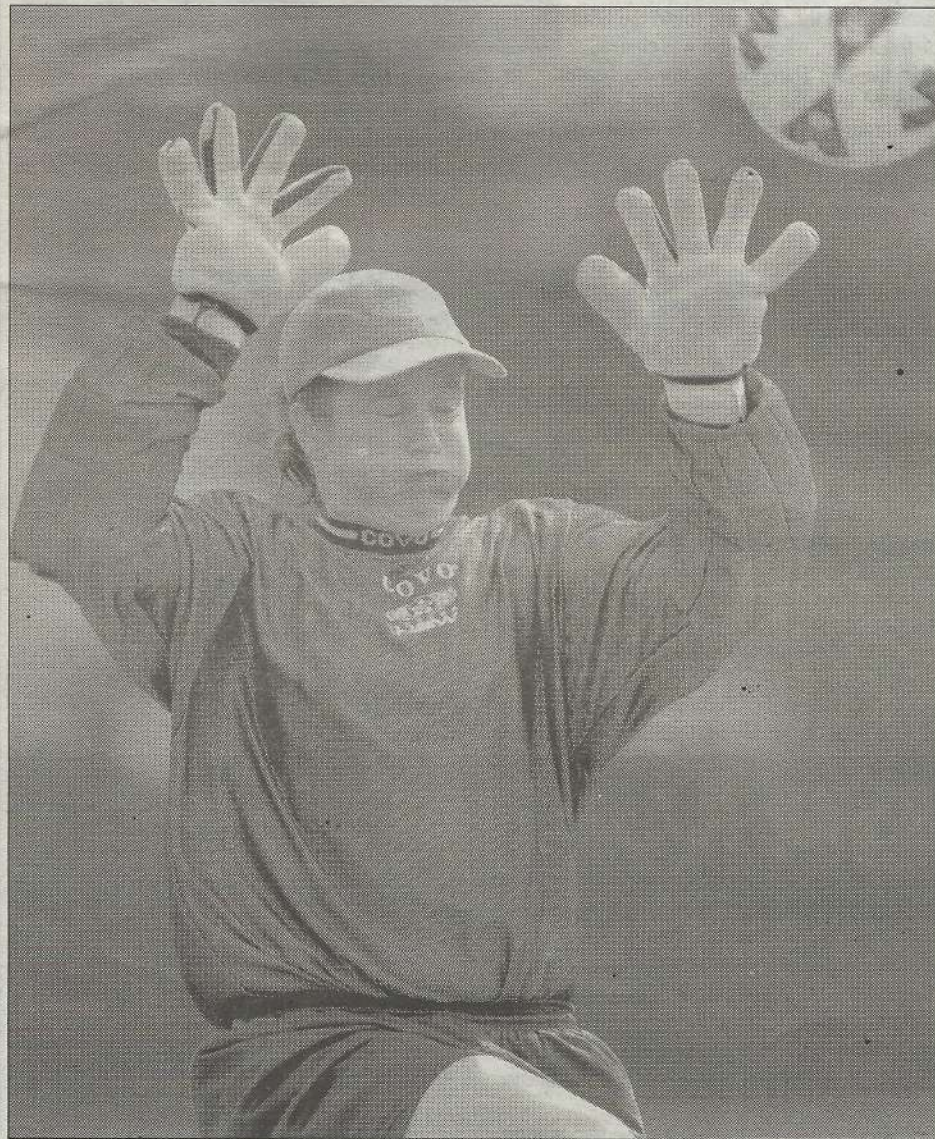
NSW Sapphires hit back with the equaliser just three minutes after the restart, youth international Cannuli found unmarked at the far post by a great ball from Blayney for the striker to head home.

On the hour mark, NSW's World Cup keeper Cassandra Kell collided heavily with Australian teammate April Mann, taking some time to recover

from the clash, before getting up and saving well from the ensuing corner.

Sapphires Kylie Ledbrook and Cannuli had shots on goal but were unable to break through. A tense long period of stoppage time saw both sides with chances to snatch a winner, Garriock sending her free kick over, before Blayney did likewise with her attempt.

The Sapphires next match is against Victoria Vision, at the Serbian Sports Centre, Keysborough, Victoria, on Saturday the 15th of November. Kick off is at 3pm.



NSW's Matildas keeper Cassandra Kell survived a collision with Queensland's April Mann



### ...INSIDE...

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- Warren Cup .....P22/23
- Premier League Guide to Grounds .....P25
- Touring Sides/Summer Soccer .....P26

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## WARREN CUP

# Rockdale Beat Fighting Saints

	<b>Rockdale City Suns</b>	<b>3</b>
	<b>St George</b>	<b>2</b>

by Paul Goodwin

**W**ednesday night football returned to St George Stadium, with the second round of the Johnny Warren Cup being staged in front of a decent-sized crowd.

The stadium was looking a picture as both last-start-winners trotted out for the first match of the evening.

Rockdale had done most of the exciting stuff in the first round and would have started favourites, but the Saints, being at home, were also strongly fancied.

In the end Rockdale made it through to the final after only two matches by prevailing 3-2 over a fighting St George outfit.

Rockdale looked in control of the game for long periods, but some lapses of focus at various stages almost cost them a win.



They conceded a goal early on as St George once again showed their ability to attack on the counter just as they had in their 3-2 win over Bonnyrigg three days earlier.

Without their new and suspended Czech striker, Dalibor Slezak and nursing goalkeeper Richard Patrizi, who is due to undergo an arthroscopy on a troublesome knee, the Saints looked the goods and only succumbed late in the game when Gabriel Mendez gave up possession in the middle of the park and a gleeful Rockdale capitalised.

The loss of Patrizi at half time may not have been a turning point for St George, but the introduction of blond-haired livewire, Peter Apolevski, in the 52nd minute certainly was for Rockdale.

Apolevski was in the thick of things from the moment he came on and fashioned two of the goals for his side - goals that looked clinical and were perfect ripostes to the Saints' own efforts to steal the match.

The game began with Rockdale in full control and they dominated for long periods without establishing any kind of a worthwhile lead.

In the early stages the Suns did most of the attacking but, just as they had against Bonnyrigg in their earlier appearance, the Saints scored against the run of play.

A free kick from James Kovas, from the edge of the box, deflected off a relieved Tony Sekulic for a corner, but from the ensuing flag-kick St George got the goal they had been looking for.

Gabriel Mendez whipped over a great ball to the near post and big defender Nick Boliianitis arrived to meet it with a perfect header past a diving Peter Trajceviski.

Ante Moric almost put Rockdale level in the last moments of the first half, but Patrizi got down well to effect a good save. Once again it was the St

George keeper who was the busier of the two, but he was more than equal to all that Rockdale could throw at him.

The keeper kept up the good work in the 57th when he plucked the ball from the feet of the advancing Robert Todorovski and Ante Moric with a brave piece of work.

Apolevski had been brought on just minutes earlier when he found the equaliser for Rockdale in the 63rd.

He persisted with his fierce challenge inside the box and, despite all the efforts of the defenders to gain control of a ball played in by Steve Bozinovski, the blond-headed one was able to force the ball over the St George line.

Just 8 minutes later the Suns hit the lead.

This time Apolevski, with his usual burst of speed, turned provider. He crossed smartly from the right and found the head of Todorovski, whose finish was clinical.

In the 79th Harry James saw his header deflected over the bar, after a well-judged, high through-pass had set up the opportunity. Then in the 83rd, and when least expected, St George fashioned an equaliser themselves.

A Mendez corner led to the ball being punched out to the deep-lying Seb Sinozic, whose rasping shot from 30 yards went in off the underside of the crossbar with little dispute.

The game became a little niggling near the end, as befits a local derby of this nature and it was clear that both sides still wanted to win.

Rockdale saw that St George were still basking in their good fortune of getting a goal when most needed and immediately replied with what turned out to be the winner themselves.

James and Ante Moric took advantage of a sloppy piece of midfield work by Mendez and took off upfield in tandem.

James played an exchange of passes and Moric finished St George off with the 85th minute strike that gave replacement keeper Dejan Josipovic no chance.

The win meant that Rockdale was the first team into the final on Sunday next where their opponents



St. George's Nick Boliianitis (number 3) scores

after the second stage could have been any one of the other three teams.

It meant an interesting weekend was ahead for all teams in this inaugural Johnny Warren Cup competition.

**ROCKDALE CITY SUNS:** Peter Trajceviski, Joe Moric, Nick Orlic, Richard Plesa (C), Ben Delghan, Tony Sekulic, Ante Moric, Steve Bozinovski, Goce Trposki (Robert Todorovski 54), Steve Dimitrievski (Peter Apolevski 51), Harry James  
**Subs not used:** Daniel Farias (RKG), Tony Ju, Spase Najdoski, Daniel Kukucka, Mal Bideau  
**Coach:** Bill Pilovski

**ST GEORGE:** Richard Patrizi (Dejan Josipovic 72), Seb Sinozic, Nick Boliianitis, Simon Verrinder, Adrian Webster, Bruno Beddoni (Sam Keramea 70), Gabriel Mendez (C), George Lagoudakis (Paulo Oliveira 66), Max Sevares (Zoki Adioski 48), Justin Ashley, James Kovas (Anthony Uccchino 77)  
**Sub not used:** Nil  
**Coach:** Manny Spanoudakis

**Referee:** Alex Spiroski  
**Assistant Referees:** Leo Romero and Daniel Dewhurst

## INTERESTING DRAW IN CUP

	<b>Bonnyrigg WE</b>	<b>3</b>
	<b>Sydney Crescent Star</b>	<b>3</b>

by Greg Stock

**I**n the late game on Wednesday night, Crescent Star thrice came back from one goal deficit to record a brave 3-3 draw with Bonnyrigg.

In just their second hitout for the year, the Winter Super League champions looked rusty but utilised the speed and skill of striker Hans Sevgin to great effect to keep themselves in the hunt for a spot in the Johnny Warren Cup Final.

Bonnyrigg themselves were a far cry from the side that made it all the way through to the Preliminary Final last season, boasting just four

members of that team.

The holes were filled by a large array of trialists, with coach Ljube Jancev using the opportunity to see his charges under match conditions. Three times they took the lead, taking advantage of some sloppy defence from Crescent Star, but three times they themselves relaxed allowing cheap goals at the back.

Freddy Umlil, back from a stint in Europe over the off season, got the scoreboard rolling in the 15th minute when he pounced on an error by Hassan Al Kozai and beat Ali Akbal at the near post.

Sydney CS's Hans Sevgin used his speed to race onto a Tony Faria through ball in the 24th minute to

square the ledger, before Aaron Burgess chimed in to beat Akbal after a great run and pass from Umlil.

With literally the last kick of the half, Sevgin again exploited a lack of communication between Mark D'Alessandro and Chris Fleming to nip in and slam a shot to the near post which beat goalkeeper Steve Angelov all ends up.

While the second half was played at a more pedestrian pace than the first, there were a couple of bright moments. White Eagles youngster Dejan Malenica put away a pinpoint cross from Shane Knight at the back post, after a great run down the right hand touchline.

But the night belonged to Sevgin, the pint sized striker nipping in with a third when he raced past a couple of poor tackles to again beat Angelov and make it number three.

Best for Bonnyrigg were midfielders Greg Collins and Freddy Umlil, while Crescent Star was well served by Tony Faria and Sevgin.

The most worrying concern for both coaches was

the lack of shape in either defence but with some three weeks before the season kickoffs, expect plenty of improvement leading into round one.

**BONNYRIGG WHITE EAGLES:** Steve Angelov, Scott Wells, Mark D'Alessandro, Shane Cevenini (Alex Canak 43'), Shane Knight, Freddy Umlil, Aaron Burgess, Emmanuel Papageorgiou (Dejan Malenica 46'), Chris Fleming, Greg Collins (Dalibor Drca 85'), Devrim Huseyin  
**Coach:** Ljube Jancev

**SYDNEY CRESCENT STAR:** Ali Akbal (Woytek Zarzycki 46'), Hassan Al Kozai, Unal Ogmen, Arthur Mandas, George Issa (Daniel Willoughby 46'), Filip Marzec, Terry Atsas, Shane Hammond (Volkan Kir 46'), Antonio Faria, Hans Sevgin, Kosta Mirick (Sam Nizam 69')  
**Coach:** Yasin Ozdenak

**Cautions:** D'Alessandro 84'  
**Referee:** Peter Vrtkovski  
**Assistant Referees:** David Dewhurst and Leo Romero





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## FROM THE SIDELINES

WITH GREG STOCK



### White Dragons?

Bonnyrigg could well be renaming themselves 'The Dragons' after recruiting yet another one of Ian Gillan's Fraser Park team that finished runners-up to Sydney Crescent Star in the Winter Super League Grand Final.

Having already signed Scott Wells and Steve Angelov, Ljube Jancev has picked up midfielder Greg Collins and is reportedly interested in Manny Papageorgiou.

### Panthers New Den

Penrith Panthers have decided not to play their home matches at Andrews Road Field this season. The club will now be based at Cook Park, St. Marys. Updated versions of the NSW Premier League draw are available from [www.soccernsw.com.au](http://www.soccernsw.com.au)

### Demons Double Headers

Blacktown City is one club always willing to take the initiative with their marketing. Club spokesman Ken Schembri is has revealed the club is looking to try and hold a 'double-header' with two Premier League matches on the card.

"We tried this idea with an NSL match a couple of seasons ago and it is something we are keen to look at," said Schembri. "It would be a chance to test the market and see if they would support a concept like this."

Blacktown are also using their improved relationship with the local association to send out a number of free passes for youngsters to come to Demons home games.

"As a league we need to try and boost our profile and the only way to do this is by taking the initiative and trying different ideas," continued Schembri. "We

have a great product and it's just a matter of getting a few more bums on seats."

### Rockdale Talent Factory

The Suns may have another player on his way overseas with midfielder David Brickell reportedly close to signing with English First Division outfit Derby County when the transfer window reopens in January.

Exceptionally proud of their achievements in sending players overseas the Suns are fast developing into a strong nursery for overseas clubs with Nick Bosevski, Goran Talevski and Sasha Tirovski all moving from Rockdale to European clubs over the past 18 months.

### A.P.I.A. to Save Water

The internal renovations at Lambert Park are expected to be finished inside the next two weeks, with the new look dressing sheds expected to be the envy of the league.

In addition Club President Tony Raciti has revealed that A.P.I.A. will be installing a water tank to collect rainwater for use on the pitch during this period of water restrictions. The sponsorship targets are also up with \$125,000 in confirmed support for the new season.

### Can't Wait for the Cup

The feedback over the introduction of the Continental Tyres Cup competition remains positive with a number of clubs looking forward to the first game in February next year.

Sutherland coach Vic Ellul is one, though with the

Sharks being a seeded team, they won't see action until Round 4.

"I can only see this as being a positive move for the league as a whole," said Ellul. "It conjures up some great feelings of David and Goliath battles between lower league sides and the top teams of the NSW Premier League."

A.P.I.A.-Leichhardt boss Tony Raciti has even called for the introduction of NSL sides citing the possibility of a side from the state league performing some giant killing acts.

"The inclusion of the National League sides would have created a lot of interest and the way the Premier League has been going, who is to say one of our teams couldn't have knocked off a Northern Spirit or Marconi." A very interesting thought.

### Yates to Adelaide

Anyone wondering what happened to Blacktown City defender Paul Yates? 'After an injury ravaged season in 2002/3, 'Yatesy' has accepted a transfer with his job at BT to Adelaide, where he confirms he will link up with a club in the local SA Premier League in 2004.

### Tesoro Didn't Apply

Wollongong youth coach Eddie Tesoro contacted FTS last week, to categorically deny that he ever applied for the head coach job at Stanmore.

Ethniakos.

"Back in those days the Greek league was quite strong and I was lucky to have had the opportunity to have a lengthy career there," said Papoulas.

Playing against the likes of Jimmy Patikas, Chris Kalantzis and John Anastasiadis was his first taste of Australia, before he elected to return to the country of his birth and join the Cosmos. "Back in those days the NASL was like another world," he continued.

"The media attention was unbelievable and we were playing with and against players that were some of the worlds best."

A stint in the US national team followed, including the World Cup qualifiers for Mexico 1986. Moving onto Australia, he has spent the past few seasons with Parramatta City and Nepean.

"My wife is an Australian so the decision to come to Australia was an easy one," said Papoulas.

"Her family suggested we come here and give it a try and we have really enjoyed it. From a footballing perspective I have had some good years with both Parramatta and Nepean and I am confident I can help Bankstown work there way back into the finals." When asked if he had caught up with his old sparring partners Jimmy Patikas and Chris Kalantzis.

"Our paths haven't crossed yet but I am looking forward to seeing both guys again." It is a small world, football.



The clubhouse at A.P.I.A. Leichhardt's home ground Lambert Park has recently been renovated

"I am very happy with my role at Wollongong and want to make it perfectly clear that I have not been spoken to by any person connected with the Hawks," said Tesoro. Word is that Sotiri Mavros has been appointed coach, and he faces a tough challenge with as many as 8 of last season's first grade squad all moving onto other clubs.

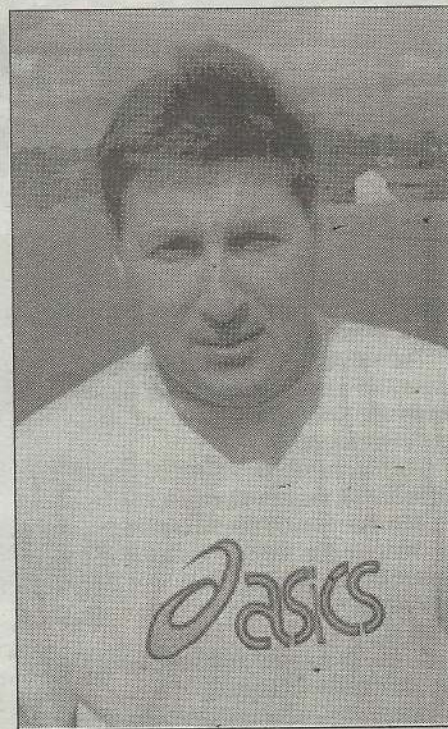
### Two Greats Cross Paths Again

The North American Soccer League in its heyday is a far cry from the N.S.W. State League. With players the calibre of Pele, Franz Beckenbauer, even our own Adrian 'Noddy' Alston, the league created huge excitement when it exploded onto the footballing stage in the mid 1970s.

But for two of the newest coaches in this seasons Premier League, Andy Papoulas at Bankstown City and Yasin Ozdenak at Sydney Crescent Star the NASL was one of many steps on a footballing road that sees them again cross paths, this time from the coaches dugout.

"I played for the New York Cosmos in its heyday alongside Franz Beckenbauer and Rodney Marsh," said Lions boss Papoulas.

"Yasin Ozdenak came to the Cosmos the season after I left, so it is interesting how almost twenty years later we are back together again." Papoulas was born in the United States but played most of his senior football in Greece with Panathaniakos and



Bankstown coach Andy Papoulas



Canterbury-Marrickville players relaxing after a gruelling friendly in the heat against Blacktown City at Valentine Park on Sunday





## WARREN CUP

# YOUNG MALENICA SCORES WINNER

	<b>Bonnyrigg WE</b>	<b>2</b>
	<b>Rockdale City Suns</b>	<b>1</b>

By Paul Goodwin

**W**ith a spot in the final already assured Rockdale did not need to concern themselves too much with a result here, mainly wanting to make use of the game to experiment for the new season and if possible preserve their 100 per cent record into the bargain.

Bonnyrigg coach Ljube Jancev had vowed after the midweek game with Crescent Star that his side was just coming right and held no fear of Rockdale.

Indeed he had seemed confident of a win, given the players he had missing in that 3-3 draw with the Premier League's newcomers.

The game began with Rockdale making most of the early running.

Wing-back Tony Ju whipped over a nice corner from the left in the first few minutes, but when the chance fell to Mal Bideau, the experienced midfielder could not connect cleanly and the ball sailed over the bar.

After Shane Knight had been fouled on the left ten minutes into the game, a ball played in from a free kick by Fred Umlil was put wide by Aaron Burgess, from inside the six-yard area, with stand-in keeper Daniel Farias looking beaten.

Not long after this Sefir Yildiz played a ball through from deep and with Mark D'Allesandro and Steve Angelov in a terrible communication frenzy, the alert Goce Trposki was able to dart in and plant the ball into an empty net.

The clock showed only 17 minutes at that stage,

and already the under-strength and very experimental Rockdale side was in the lead, though unexpectedly. Rockdale continued to keep the pressure on and minutes later a Tony Ju corner once again was met by Bideau and the ball looped over the bar for the second time.

It was not long before the scores were level, however.

Rockdale keeper Daniel Farias got into a real mess when the speedy and skilful 18 year old, Dejan Malenica, broke the offside trap and shrugged aside the challenge from the keeper, before taking the ball wide and cutting it back for a simple tap in by Shane Knight.

It was 25 minutes into the game and many expected Bonnyrigg to begin to score more, but they played well within themselves and Rockdale stuck to their task too.

Ghenadie Costiuc brought a quiet period of the game alive when in the 45th he burst through the heart of the Bonnyrigg defence to shoot powerfully from fully 30 yards out, only to send the ball skimming just over the bar.

Rockdale, on a real day for youngsters, brought on 17-year-old Daniel Wilson in place of the 17-year-old Nathan Trajceviski, and also made one other substitution around the same time.

That was their old fox Spase Najdoski, who almost gave Rockdale the lead back again, in the 62nd minute, when he went around the keeper, but his shot was cleared off the line by Alex Canak.

Moments later, at the other end, an overhead kick by Aaron Burgess, from inside the six-yard box, was claimed on the Rockdale line by Farias.

There was a welcome return to the Rockdale ranks for long time injury victim Alex Kotevich and the side also included the aforementioned Costiuc, who had not been seen in the earlier games. Both players will be better for the run of course.

Mal Bideau took off on a promising run for Rockdale in the 52nd and laid on a through pass for Trposki whose shot went inches wide of the left post with the keeper struggling to reach the ball. Rockdale were certainly not beaten at that stage.

Devrim Huseyin for Bonnyrigg did make Farias

work hard when he fired a low shot through a crowded box in the 68th and the keeper then got down well on the line to save.

Not long after this a Malenica shot was also saved by the keeper, who was kept busy throughout, but did well in his outing instead of regular custodian Peter Trajceviski.

Bonnyrigg finally hit the lead in the 73rd minute when Malenica let rip with a superb first-time shot from just inside the area on the left, and the ball landed in the top right corner of the net, with the keeper powerless to stop it.

Rockdale forced a corner in the 82nd but the fragile White Eagles defence held them out.

It was a gallant effort by a team of youngsters who will have benefited from the outing and can now be called upon in the next couple of weeks by coach Bill Pilovski who has to play Bonnyrigg again in the Final of this Johnny Warren Cup tournament next Sunday and again the following weekend in the Premier League season opener.

Sydney Crescent Star will now play St George for the third place medal after almost springing a surprise and qualifying for the Final itself.



Bonnyrigg White Eagles go into a pre-match huddle

**BONNYRIGG WHITE EAGLES:** Steve Angelov, Scott Wells, Mark D'Allesandro, Dejan Malenica, Fred Umlil, Chris Fleming, Greg Collins, George Radmanovic (Alex Canak 18), Devrim Huseyin, Shane Knight, Aaron Burgess (Dalibor Drca 46)  
Subs not used: Cem Akilli (RGK), Brendan Mitrovic

**ROCKDALE CITY SUNS:** Daniel Farias, Sefir Yildiz, Ghenadie Costiuc, Nathan Trajceviski (Daniel Wilson 61), Alex Kotevich, Kosta Miric (Spase Najdoski 49), Tony Ju, Goce Trposki, Daniel Kukucka, Mal Bideau, Steve Dimitrievski  
Subs not used: Peter Trajceviski (RGK), Ben Deighan  
Coach: Bill Pilovski

**Referee:** Wayne Spagnol  
**Assistant Referees:** John Soranidis and Keith Anderson

**Yellow Cards:** Bonnyrigg: George Radmanovic 10, Alex Canak 83; Rockdale City Suns: Nathan Trajceviski 13, Mal Bideau 86

# SALARY CAP: LEVELLING THE PLAYING FIELD?

by Greg Stock

**I**t is one of the most controversial reforms seen in the New South Wales Premier League since its establishment three years ago, but like it or lump it, the salary cap is here to stay.

The brainchild of the Premier League clubs committee, the cap is designed to bring all player payments into line, turning the league into a more equitable competition.

The facts are simple: a \$100,000 limit on player payments per season with regular auditing of each club's books to ensure that the cap is being adhered to. With penalties varying from a loss of competition points to fines the writing is on the wall for every club, either shape up or face the consequences.

So why all the fuss? Rockdale General Manager Mendo Cklamovski explains. "The caps intentions are noble, to stop skyrocketing player payments and to protect the clubs against overspending on their players and to try and level up the competition the

same way that the AFL and NRL have done," explained Cklamovski.

"But from the clubs perspective it has become something of an administrative nightmare with forty or more rules and regulations on what you can and can't do."

The Suns are one club that is finding the going tough. Using the off-season to rejuvenate their playing roster, the club has been struggling to with the figures to make sure that they fall under the limit.

"At Rockdale we are trying to create a highly professional culture, through our playing and coaching staff and through our administration," continued Cklamovski.

"In line with that we are committed to making regular player payments and that means a lot of juggling of numbers to try and accommodate everyone."

"Take Tony Sekulic for example. Tony could have gone to any other club for more money but he chose Rockdale because he was a junior here and wants to put something back into the club he came from."

"But trying to accommodate his requirements and the other 17 or so players makes it difficult when your three weeks out from the season start date and your still trialling players."

Another to be concerned about the impact of the cap on their club is A.P.I.A.-Leichhardt President Tony Raciti. "In the aftermath of an historic championship win last season, the pressure is on the Tigers to ensure their squad of 2003/4 comes up to the benchmark set last year."

"I want to clearly state that A.P.I.A. is still in favour of the cap, after all it was us who originally proposed the idea a few years back," said Raciti. "What concerns us is the administration of its rules and regulations and how each club is going to be reviewed during and at the end of each season."

So how are the coaches and playing staff coping with the new rules? Canterbury midfielder Sam Larocca is one player who was negotiating a new contract amidst the implementation phase of the cap. "The negotiations weren't as easy as they had been in previous years," said Larocca.

"I was sounded out by a couple of teams but when the discussion moved to wages the salary cap was always brought up as a reason why it had to be this way or that. I'm happy with the way everything worked out, because I play for the love of the game, but for guys relying on the income to put food on the table it could be very difficult."

Penrith midfielder Jason Connolly agrees. "It meant a change of tact from the way I have negotiated every other year, but in the end I was happy with what I got," said Connolly.

"I had a figure in my mind of what I wanted each week and we worked on that, but I can see it would have a negative impact on players who might be battling for the final two spots in a club who has little or no money left to negotiate with."



Blacktown City spokesman Ken Schembri summing up the mood in the league, "the salary cap is the one issue that could divide the clubs' healthy relationship with each other and turn into something that could be very divisive." We will watch this with interest.





## WARREN CUP

# ATSAS SPARKS CS VICTORY

	<b>Sydney Crescent Star</b>	<b>2</b>
	<b>St George</b>	<b>0</b>

By Paul Goodwin

**W**ith a place in the final the prize, St George and Sydney Crescent Star had different agendas, perhaps, with the latter needing a win for sure and the hosts possibly able to qualify with a draw, depending on the later result.

Buoyed by a midweek 3-3 draw with Bonnyrigg, Crescent Star would have gone into the game believing that they could win it while the Saints had done enough in both outings already to suggest they would have Crescent Star's measure here too.

In blustery conditions and with Johnny Warren himself watching from the sidelines, the game got under way in subdued fashion.

A one-handed save by Steve Tolios in the 20th minute, from a low cross provided by George Lagoudakis, denied the St George strikers a scoring opportunity.

Filip Marzec moved forward, with Daniel Willoughby in support, but after an exchange of passes, the end result was a tame shot well wide of the target by Marzec.

St George made most of the early running, but stout work from Crescent Star defenders, Michael Cindric and Askin Oygur, well directed by Angelo Petratos, made the Saints' task difficult.

Filip Marzec did very well to make space for himself inside the area in the 38th, but his snap-shot flew just wide of the left post with the keeper scrambling to reach it.

Marzec then fashioned an opening for the trialling Peter Satos, but Saints' keeper Ricardo Patrizi got down well to smother the shot at his near post.

Then four minutes later, with Crescent Star on a big burst of creative energy, Satos again got through and Patrizi saved well with his legs to keep his side in the game.

St George then responded when the ever-lively George Lagoudakis fired powerfully from the edge of the box, but the ball went just wide, albeit with the keeper beaten.

Adrian Webster got the second half under way for St George with a cracking shot from close range, but this time it was Tolios who used his legs to save well.

Shortly after this Crescent Star really came to life.

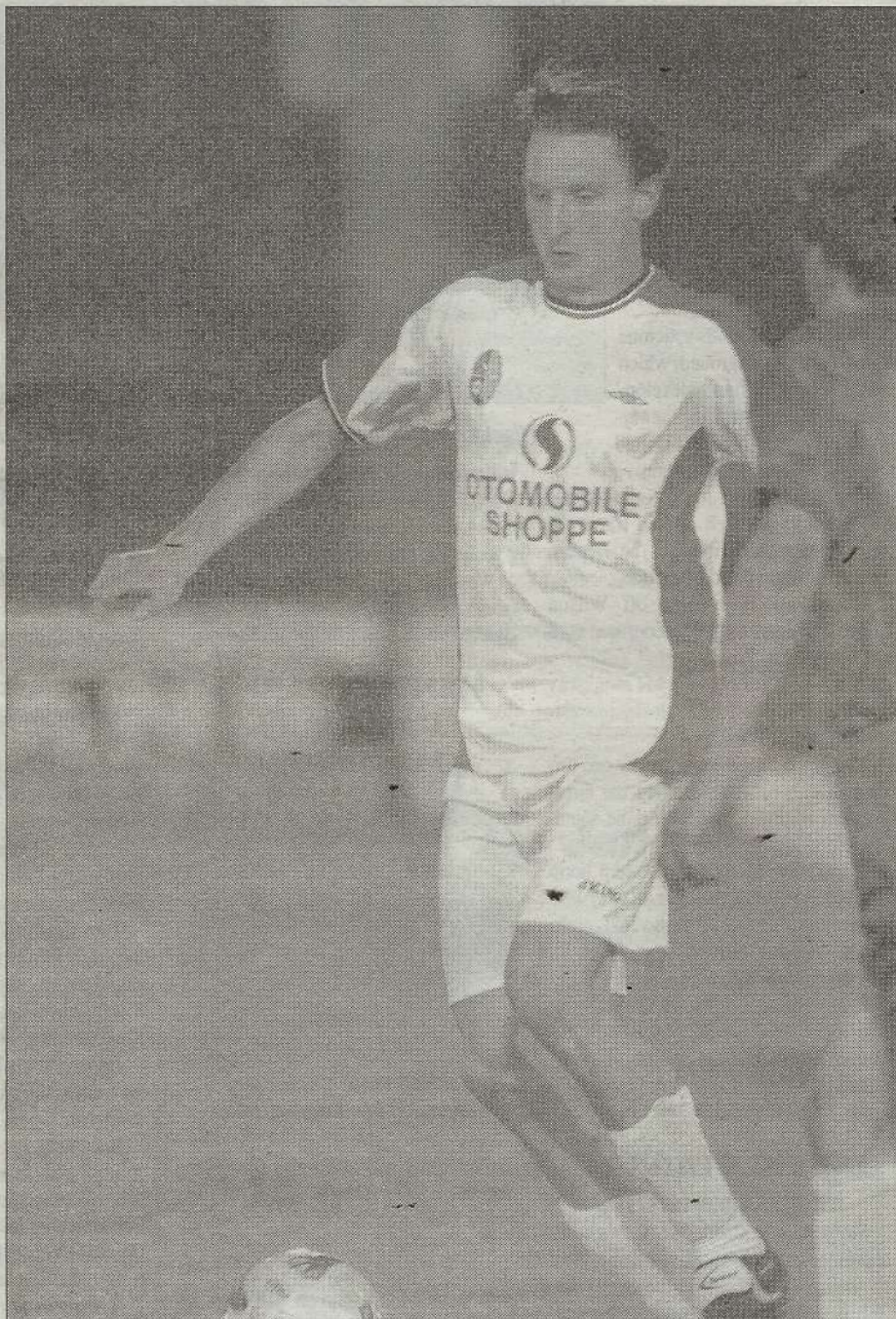
Shane Hammond, on the left, did extra well to get the ball over from the byline and found Hakan Sevgin at the far post, who headed the ball back into the goalmouth.

There, a shot was fired in by Terry Atsas, which was superbly saved by Patrizi, at point blank range and then a second effort by Filip Marzec was headed off the line by Sebastian Sinozic. Finally Hakan Sevgin found his own follow-up shot blocked on the line and the Saints breathed a sigh of relief.

All the good lead-up work of Raphael Bove in the 61st came to nought when, with Lagoudakis completely free in the box, Bove elected to shoot and blazed his shot way over the bar.

Moments later Webster found Mendez free in the box, but the former NSL star managed to clip his shot straight into the arms of Tolios, when a simple tap-in was all that was required.

St George then made a mess of another chance a moment later, when James Kovas hit the left post with the keeper beaten, after making a good run into the box to set up a cross which then saw the ball played out to him by the defence.



Filip Marzec, who scored the winner in last season's Winter Super League, came close to giving Crescent Star the lead in the first half



St. George captain Gabriel Mendez was unable to lift his team to victory in the Warren Cup

Substitute Zoki Adioski got a good cross over for Kovas who just arrived a split second too late to score the opener of the game in the 70th minute.

Sevgin capitalised on a loose ball to fire one just wide in the 78th in a rare Crescent Star foray during a period of play which St George dominated.

Terry Atsas was instrumental in getting his side in front from the penalty spot in the 81st minute when, he proved far too slippery for the St George defence, who had no answer to the swift movement he had generated. Simon Verrender was punished, by referee Craig Pearce, for upending Atsas just inside the box.

Former St George skipper Angelo Petratos converted from the spot, with glee, to send the Crescent Star supporters into raptures.

Terry Atsas put the game beyond doubt in the 90th minute when he waltzed around the last defender to score pointlessly and make it 2-0.

Atsas was outstanding once again for Crescent Star and the appearance of Petratos in defence appeared to give the side the confidence they needed

to deal with a talented St George side. The Saints missed far too many chances early in the game and paid the price in the closing stages.

**SYDNEY CRESCENT STAR:** Steve Tolios, Angelo Petratos, Askin Oygur, Michael Cindric, Daniel Willoughby (Volkan Kir 58), Shane Hammond (Aydin Cetinay 79), Terry Atsas, Hakan Sevgin, Peter Satos (Foti Hatzivalasanas 69), Filip Marzec, George Issa.  
**Subs not used:** ROK Vojtek Woznicki, Unal Ogmen.  
**Coach:** Yasin Ozdenak

**ST GEORGE:** Ricardo Patrizi, Seb Sinozic, Nick Bolianitis, Vince Savoca (Justin Ashley 85), Adrian Webster, Raphael Bove, Bruno Beddoni (James Kovas 46), Gabriel Mendez, George Lagoudakis (Zoki Adioski 62), Simon Verrender, Dalibor Slezak  
**Sub not used:** ROK Matthew Milosevic, Simon Watts

**Referee:** Craig Pearce  
**Assistant Referees:** John Soranidis and Keith Anderson  
**Yellow Cards:** Sydney Crescent Star: St George: Vince Savoca 51, Dalibor Slezak 90





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## PREMIER LEAGUE GROUND DIRECTORY

*The NSW Premier League encompasses clubs that are spread out all across greater Sydney, coastal areas and the ACT. For the convenience of supporters, Soccer NSW has compiled this directory of all the Premier League soccer grounds. Further information is available at [www.soccernsw.com.au](http://www.soccernsw.com.au) and on Premier League club web sites.*

### COOK PARK - Penrith Panthers

Penrith Panthers will play their home matches at Cook Park, St. Marys during the 2003/04 season.

The club decided last week to play all its matches at Cook Park, after Andrews Road Field was deemed unsuitable.

The pleasant and spacious Cook Park soccer ground, which has potential for future development, will also host the newly-formed Penrith Nepean United youth league representative teams.

Spectators are well catered for at the new venue, which includes the Nepean Soccer Pavilion beside the pitch.

Cook Park is situated off Wilson Street, St. Marys (not to be confused with Cook Park, Mt. Pritchard).

It is located between the M4 motorway and the Great Western Highway in western Sydney.

The ground is best reached by car, driving in either direction along the Great Western Highway, and taking the southern exit at Mamre Road.

If travelling along the M4, turn north on to Mamre Road, then left on to Wilson Street, just after the St. Marys RSL club.

The nearest railway station is St. Marys, on the western line. From the station, buses head south down Queen Street (the main street of St. Marys) towards Mamre Road. For the cyclist or determined pedestrian, Cook Park is about 1.5 km from the rail station.

### GABBIE STADIUM - Blacktown City

Supporters at Blacktown City's well-appointed ground have seen some great football played there over the years.

It is a true soccer ground, with excellent viewing and spectator facilities.

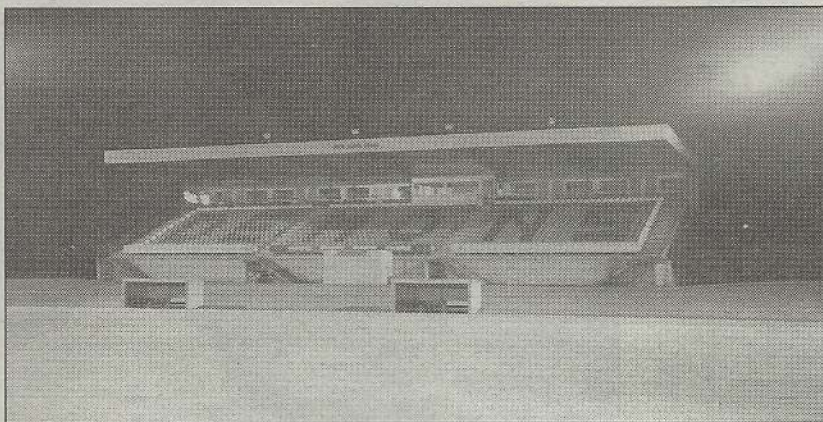
The John Alers stand along the eastern side of the pitch provides undercover seating, while banked grass hills surround the rest of the pitch. The licensed club offers post-match conviviality.

The Gabbie Stadium is located at the end of Quinn Avenue, Seven Hills, in the Blacktown region of western Sydney.

To get there by car, turn off Seven Hills Road onto Lucas Road and take the first exit into Quinn Avenue.

Seven Hills Road is reached via the main arteries off Cumberland Highway. You can park in the club car park or adjoining streets.

If travelling by train, alight at Seven

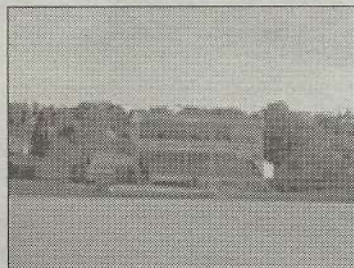


Blacktown City's home ground - the Gabbie Stadium in Seven Hills

Hills station on the Blacktown line, and walk along Seven Hills Road, turning left into Lucas Road and right into Quinn Avenue - it takes about 5-10 minutes.

Westbus 705 from Parramatta, 709 from Toongabbie and 718 from Blacktown all stop near the ground.

### HENSON PARK - Canterbury-Marrickville



Henson Park: Canterbury-Marrickville's home ground

Canterbury will again play their home matches at Henson Park, their Marrickville base.

The ground has wide open spaces, including a huge grass hill on the northern side, and more than enough room for spectators and their cars.

A small two-tier grandstand with about 400 undercover seats gives a good, if long-range, view of the pitch from the southern side.

To get there by car, take New Canterbury Road, if travelling from the city, and turn left into Livingstone Road, then left into Sydenham Road.

The ground is about 5 minutes west along Sydenham Road from the Victoria Road intersection. Turn left at Centennial Street for entrance and car parking.

If coming by train, hop off at Sydenham, then walk up Sydenham Road and turn left on to Centennial Road.

Alternatively, a 426 bus from Circular Quay takes you to Sydenham Road.

### JENSEN PARK - Bankstown City Lions

Bankstown City's Jensen Park home base is reasonably accessible from all parts of Sydney, being located near to road and rail transport in the south-western suburb of Sefton.

The club added a roof to the bleacher-style seating on the eastern side of the pitch a couple of years back, allowing for a decent level of spectator comfort.

When travelling to Jensen Park by car from the direction of the city, follow Parramatta Road until the Hume Highway, then turn left.

Turn right at Hector Street, Bass Hill, then right into Waldron Rd. Go to the first round-about, then turn left at Helen Street. Then turn right on to Clapham Road (the first street on your right).

Jensen Park is located on the left, about 1km down the road. Off-street parking is available.

If coming by train, get off at Sefton station and head down Helen Street towards the Sefton Pub/Hotel. The Pub/Hotel is located on the corner of Helen Street and Clapham Road. Turn right onto Clapham Rd and walk about 800 metres to the park, which will be on your left.

### JOHN CREHAN PARK/ SEYMOUR SHAW - Rockdale City Suns

Rockdale will divide their playing time between John Crehan Park in the Illawarra and Seymour Shaw Soccer Stadium in Sydney's Sutherland Shire.

Crehan Park, one of the better soccer grounds on the South Coast, is located on Gorrell Street in the industrial Wollongong suburb of Cringila.

If travelling down from Sydney, take the Southern Freeway, turn left on to Five Islands Road, right onto Lake Avenue then take the second right into Gorrell Street, which will take you into the car park.

The ground is walking distance from Cringila station, and buses go along Five Island Road.

Seymour Shaw, home of Winter Super League club Sutherland Sharks, has fine spectator facilities, including a good undercover grandstand down the western side of the soccer pitch.

It is located on The Boulevard, Miranda, just west of the main junction with Port Hacking Road and Kiara Road.

Parking is available on The Boulevard and surrounding streets.

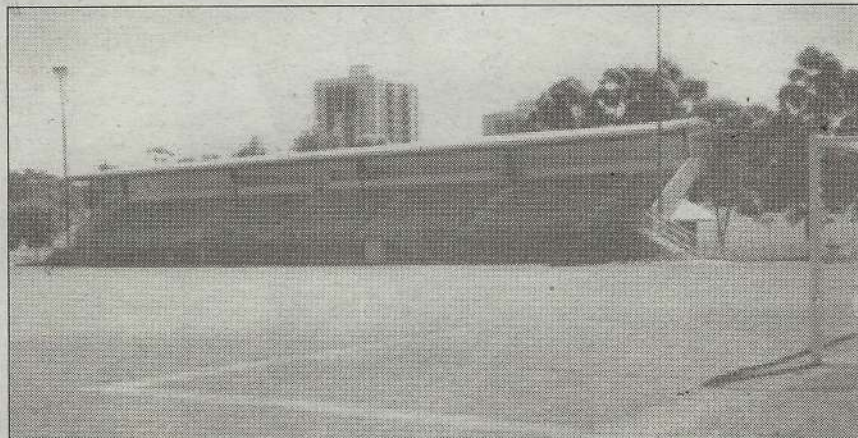
The ground is an easy stroll north up Kiara Road from Miranda railway station.

### LAMBERT PARK - A.P.I.A. Leichhardt

Lambert Park, one of the older soccer venues in the Premier League, is located on Marion Street, Leichhardt, in Sydney's inner west, strategically close to Norton Street's gelato emporiums.



Aerial action at Bankstown City's Jensen Park



The main stand at Seymour Shaw Soccer Stadium, where Rockdale will play many of their home matches



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## PREMIER LEAGUE GROUND DIRECTORY

### MELITA STADIUM - Parramatta Eagles

The Parramatta Eagles' home ground, Melita Stadium, is one of the best in the league, and has been the scene of many exciting clashes in the last twenty years.

The 1980's-era Don Agius stand has covered seating for supporters along the west side of the football pitch, and low grass hills fitted with benches surround most of the rest of the ground.

To get there by car, travel along Woodville Road, turning left at Rawson Road, right at Ferndell Street and left into Everley Rd to the stadium at end of road.

There is adequate parking in club's own car park behind the ground between it and Everley Park.

Train travelers alight at Granville, then catch a Baxters bus 910 or train to Chester Hill, then walk east along Waldron Rd, left at Hector St to Boundary Rd, cross into Merle St, and stadium is at the end.

over the years. Now it's soccer's turn, and the new chapter should be an interesting one.

The venue has reasonably good spectator facilities, with a small covered grandstand on the south-western side of the pitch, and ample grassy hills that have sweeping views of the pitch. Further undercover seating is currently being mooted.

The ground is located on Church Street Lidcombe, and is part of the large Wyatt Park sporting complex.

If traveling along Olympic Drive, turn west into Church Street, and continue for about 400 metres past the Auburn swimming pool.

If coming by train, get off at Lidcombe, and walk west along Church Street for about 700 metres.

### McKELLAR SOCCER CENTRE - Belconnen Blue Devils

During their third season in the NSW Premier League, Belconnen Blue Devils moved to their brand new home at the Soccer Centre in McKellar.

The ground is known as the premier location for soccer in Canberra, with a visiting Indonesian team playing the Blue Devils and the Australian Women's team, The Matildas, first holding their Australia



The covered grandstand behind the goals at Bonnyrigg White Eagles' Serbian Centre ground

Cup at the venue, and then the World Cup Qualifiers as well.

The ground is located on William Slim Drive, in the northern Canberra suburb of McKellar, close to the large Lake Gininderra.

To get there, simply turn left off the Barton Highway, traveling south, onto William Slim Drive, and you will see the

ground on your right, after about 1500 metres, at the corner of Owen Dixon Drive.

### PLUIM PARK - Central Coast United

The Central Coast club's picturesque home base at Pluim Park, Lisarow, has seen many improvements lately, but there is still plenty of room to further develop this excellent soccer venue.

Although outside the Sydney metropolitan area proper, the club is easily accessible to city-based supporters thanks to the Newcastle Freeway.

If traveling to the game by car, take the Freeway north until the turn off at Ourimbah Road, then head east to Lisarow, first passing Ourimbah station. Turn left over the bridge and left into Tuggerah Street. Parking is available at the ground.

If coming by train, exit Lisarow station on the northern side and then turn left, back along the highway to turn off at Tuggerah Street on the right.

### SERBIAN CENTRE - Bonnyrigg White Eagles

The White Eagles' compact soccer stadium is adjacent to the Serbian Centre, which sponsors the team, in Bonnyrigg on the south-western fringes of suburban Sydney.

The ground features covered seating behind the goals, and is

renowned for its vibrant atmosphere during game-time. The social club is right next door.

When traveling by car, go down the Cumberland Highway to the large Smithfield roundabout, follow Smithfield Road to the end, then turn right at Elizabeth Drive, left at Aplin Road, and right at Simpson Road. The Bonnyrigg club has room for around 800 cars in its own car park.

If coming by train, go to Cabramatta station, and then by Westbus 832 to Simpson Road, which stops outside ground, once hourly.

### ST GEORGE STADIUM - St George

Many improvements have been made around the historic old St. George soccer stadium in time for the new season.

The ground features an all-seater grandstand along its western side, with steeply-banked grass hills along the other three sides of the rectangle.

To get there by car when traveling south, take Southern Cross Drive towards Brighton, turn right at Bestic St and right at the stadium car park after the Fisherman's Club. Alternatively, take the Rockdale bypass, go left off Princes Highway at Arncliffe, turning left into Bestic Street about 2 km along, then left into stadium car park, immediately before the Fisherman's Club. There is ample parking inside the club's own car park.

When arriving by train, alight at Banksia, on the eastern (Princes Hwy) side of station. Cross to the far side, turn right towards Bestic St, turn left there and continue for 2 kms to stadium (on left).

If alighting at Rockdale Station, head north on Princes Hwy, and turn right at Bestic St. Buses 475 and 479 from central Sydney also stop near the ground.



The wide open spaces of Melita Stadium, with the Donald Agius grand stand in the background



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# SOCCER NSW

www.soccernsw.com.au



## Malaysian Olympians Arrive

**T**he Malaysian Under-23 Olympic team will be staying at Valentine Sports Park until November 18th. The squad is undergoing intensive training and will play a series of games against Australian opposition.

The Malaysians will meet Sydney Crescent Star at 8pm tomorrow (Wednesday) in what should be a very interesting trial match. (Venue is to be confirmed, please see www.soccernsw.com.au for details).

On the 14th of November, the Malaysians will play Canterbury-Marrickville Olympic at Valentine Sports Park. Kick off is at 8pm.

The touring side will round off their stay with a match against

According to Malaysian newspaper, The Star Online (www.thestar.com.my), the three match tour will be the perfect avenue for several newcomers to stake their claim in the Under-23 squad for the SEA Games in Vietnam.

National coach Allan Harris said that the competition for places in the

squad would be so keen that the 29 players in a centralised training programme would be battling for places for the trip. Only 22 players made it to Valentine Park.

Harris, a former assistant to Terry Venables at Spanish giants Barcelona in

the mid-80's, said the regular players who have been with him since he took charge of the national Under-19 squad in 1998 would not have many problems fitting in his plans.

"I am not worried about results from this outing but what matters most to me is how these players (newcomers) are going to adapt and to learn the system."

"It is going to be a trial and error trip," said Harris, who has 14 players from the national senior team in the Under-23 squad.

Among the promising newcomer's are Ronny Harun, Haris Safwan Kamal, R.Surendran, Tengku Adam Tengku Rosly and Somchat Na Rong.

Harris said the youngsters have done well in the local competitions but it would be a different ball game playing at a higher and competitive level in international matches.

After the tour, 20 players will be selected for SEA Games in Vietnam, scheduled from Nov 29th to Dec 12th.

Malaysia are drawn in Group B with Myanmar, Cambodia, Singapore while in Group A are defending champions Thailand, Indonesia, Laos and hosts Vietnam.

Malaysia are down to play their preliminary round matches in Ho Chi Minh City.



Da Nang Football club from Vietnam recently completed a training camp at Valentine Park, the Soccer NSW headquarters.

Resplendent in their bright orange training gear, the pacy Da Nang players completed a sharp session in the midday sun immediately after their arrival in Sydney last Tuesday.

Da Nang FC compete in the Vietnam Premier League competition, representing a large coastal region along the Pacific seaboard.

They completed several training games against NSW Premier League and National Leagues teams as part of their Australian tour.

They played, and won, two matches against NSW Premier League club Bankstown City Lions under lights at Jensen Park last week.

The Vietnamese defeated Bankstown U20's 4-2 and Bankstown's First Grade side 1-0, in an exciting clash that revealed many differences of football culture and physique between the two sides.



Watching the games were Councillor Tran (Bankstown City Council), Mr Nguyen (Minister of Sport in Vietnam), Mr Chin (Managing Director of Danang FC Club) and Mr George Jackson (President of Bankstown City FC).



Action from a Summer Soccer match at Morrison Bay last week

With NSW Association leagues now in recess, many players are turning to Summer Soccer to get their footballing fix.

One of the largest summer soccer leagues in the state is being run by the Gladesville RSL soccer club, from the Gladesville-Hornsby Association.

The club runs a competition over an incredible 21 divisions, each of seven teams playing in a six-a-side competition, totalling almost a thousand players in all.

All matches are held at the picturesque Morrison Bay Park, on the shores of the Parramatta River in the suburb of Tennyson.



## SOCCER WEARHOUSE

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# ITALIAN SERIE A

## ITALIAN AFFAIR

By Joe Russo

The biggest story out of Italy last week was the doping scandal surrounding Saadi Gaddafi but who really cares?

Gaddafi, the son of Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi, was only signed by Perugia as a publicity stunt. He was never going to be a serious player.

Perugia President, Luciano Gaucci, is an ego and publicity maniac. His recent stunts include: sacking the Korean player who scored against Italy in last year's World Cup; signing a 38 year old goalkeeper (Sebastiano Rossi) to replace our own Zeljko Kalac until Kalac proved that he was good enough to force his way back into the team; as President of Catania, as well as Perugia, he disrupted and made a farce of the Serie B last summer by taking legal action; threatening to sign a blonde Swedish woman for Perugia as a player and, of course, the signing of Gaddafi.

Now Gaddafi only ever plays for Libya because of who he is, rather than on ability, and Gaucci probably only signed him hoping that some of the Libyan oil money that goes towards Juventus could perhaps go to Perugia as well.

After Perugia's scoreless draw with Reggina last month, Gaddafi tested positive for the banned steroid nandrolone.

Now Gaucci has stated that he feels that Gaddafi is innocent 'haven't we heard that one before? Gaucci argues that Gaddafi, who was chosen as a substitute for the game but didn't even get a minute on the park, wouldn't take the steroid because he wasn't even playing.

The logic here is typical Gaucci madness. Didn't he say it wasn't a publicity stunt to sign Gaddafi? If so, then Gaddafi must be a genuine player who has every chance of making the starting line-up. Therefore as a player who thinks he is going to play he may well have taken the banned steroid.

How can Gaucci claim now that Gaddafi knew he wouldn't play?

It is best that characters such as Gaddafi are forgotten about and kept away for as long as possible from football fields around the world.

As for Gaucci and the road show, it will just continue as normal and the Italian media will once again be captivated by his latest act of madness. Stand by for some Swedish blonde bombshell in January!

Another round of the Champions League was played last week and it was a rather mixed round for Italian teams.

Chelsea absolutely blitzed Lazio at the Olympic Stadium in Rome 4-0 in a match that was marred by the disgraceful actions of Sinisa Mihajlovic who spat at Adrian Mutu, the former Parma player.

Chelsea sit at the top of Group G thanks to the four goals including one by Hernan Crespo against his former club. Lazio now look unlikely to qualify for the knock out phase.

Chelsea coach Claudio Ranieri's value in Italy has probably skyrocketed after the victory. He left Italy for Spain and then moved to Chelsea after he had all but exhausted his options in Italy.

However, back in his home city in Rome he was extremely pleased with his side's efforts and for good reason.

AC Milan, thanks to a late goal from brilliant young Brazilian Kaka, beat Bruges 1-0 away in Belgium. It was sweet revenge for the rossoneri who the previous week had lost at home by the same scoreline to the same club. AC Milan now lead in Group H.

In Group D Juventus, last season's finalists, have qualified for the last 16 after a scoreless draw against Real Sociedad. However, the good news for Sociedad fans is that they are most likely to be joining Juventus in the knock out phase.

Marcello Lippi, Juventus's coach, was very pleased with the outcome of the match and with guaranteed passage to the next phase of the tournament it was probably to be expected.

At the San Siro in Milan, Inter and Lokomotiv Moscow played out a 1-1 draw in Group B to leave Inter on top of the group but only three points separates all four teams.

It was fairly disappointing for the Italian team given that they would have been expected to beat their Russian opponents.

Meanwhile Sydney listeners can tune into 98.5 FM on Sunday nights at 10.00pm for all the latest soccer news.

**ROMA .....2**  
**LAZIO .....2**

Two late goals by Brazilian midfielders Mancini and Emerson gave AS Roma a dramatic 2-0 win over city rivals Lazio that lifted them to second in Serie A.

The match appeared on the verge of fizzling out in a scoreless draw when Mancini's spectacular 81st-minute volley with the inside of his heel beat Lazio keeper Matteo Sereni.

Five minutes later Mancini sent a high pass over the top of Lazio's defence to pick out Emerson, who dispatched a clinical low shot into the corner of the net.

Roma sit two points behind league leaders Juventus on the same mark as AC Milan but with a better goal difference.

**JUVENTUS .....4**  
**UDINESE .....1**

Substitute Marco Di Vaio scored two late goals as Italian champions Juventus came from behind for a 4-1 win over Udinese.

Udinese went ahead with a Marek Jankulovski spot-kick but with Juve facing the prospect of their first home defeat for almost 11 months, Di Vaio equalised with a fine header from a Lilian Thuram cross in the 79th minute.

Six minutes later another Juve sub, Fabrizio Miccoli, put the champions in the lead with a tap-in.

Di Vaio made it 3-1 in the 89th minute, latching on to a pass from Pavel Nedved and four minutes into injury time Nedved set up the fourth for Frenchman David Trezeguet.

**PARMA .....0**  
**AC MILAN .....0**

European champions AC Milan, who began the day level on points with Juve, fall below Roma on goal difference, after a goalless draw at Parma.

Parma goalkeeper Vincenzo Sicignano, making his Serie A debut in place of the injured Sebastian Frey, was in top form as he foiled Milan in a pulsating game.

Milan's best chance came in the first half, but Jon Dahl Tomasson fired wide.

**INTER MILAN .....3**  
**ANCONA .....0**

Inter Milan picked-up their second straight win

with a comfortable 3-0 home victory over Ancona. Julio Ricardo Cruz opened the scoring with a well-struck free kick in the 25th minute and a Marco Materazzi header five minutes after the break doubled the advantage.

Christian Vieri made sure of the win with an instinctive finish in the 79th minute.

**SAMPDORIA .....2**  
**EMPOLI .....0**

First-half goals from strikers Fabio Bazzani and Cristiano Doni gave promoted Sampdoria a comfortable 2-0 win over Serie A strugglers Empoli.

Empoli have now lost five consecutive matches and remain rooted to the foot of the table.

The home side took the lead in the 21st minute when Bazzani latched on to Doni's through-ball before poking his shot past keeper Luca Bucci.

Six minutes later, Doni doubled the home side's advantage with a free kick that crashed down off the crossbar.

**BRESCIA .....0**  
**BOLOGNA .....0**

Former Italy keeper Gianluca Pagliuca pulled off a series of fine saves to help Bologna to a 0-0 draw at Brescia.

Brescia looked the more likely to break the deadlock in the first half, though Bologna almost grabbed an undeserved lead in the 33rd minute when striker Claudio Bellucci's shot grazed the post.

At the other end Pagliuca parried shots by Roberto Baggio and Luigi Di Biagio to keep his side on level terms.

**PERUGIA .....2**  
**LECCE .....2**

A brilliant long range strike from Uruguayan striker Ernesto Chevanton gave Lecce the lead after seven minutes. Struggling Perugia fought back and levelled the score on the stroke of half-time when an unmarked Massimo Margiotta fired home a low cross from forward Jay Bothroyd.

Eleven minutes after the restart, Lecce grabbed the lead once more thanks to an angled drive from Argentinian Cristian Ledesma. Winless Perugia battled back and secured a share of the points with a Fabio Grosso free kick.

**REGGINA .....1**  
**MODENA .....1**

Stefano Dall'Acqua's first ever Serie A goal gave Reggina the lead on 31 minutes but Modena's Nicola Campedelli headed home what was also his first top-flight goal on the stroke of half-time.



Sampdoria striker Francesco Flachi (left) tussles with Empoli defender Stefano Lucchini.

**SIENA .....1**  
**CHIEVO VERONA .....2**

Sergio Pellissier scored twice as nine-man Chievo Verona held on for victory at Siena.

In the 28th minute, Pellissier collected a fine through-ball in the box and fired home a low drive past keeper Generoso Rossi. Three minutes after the break Pellissier took advantage of a defensive error to make it 2-0.

Chievo's Franco Semioli was sent off for his second bookable offence on the hour and four minutes later Lorenzo D'Anna was also red-carded for a 'professional foul'. An Enrico Chiesa penalty on 76 minutes cut the deficit but Chievo hung on.

## FIXTURES

Sunday 23rd November

Ancona	vs	Brescia
Bologna	vs	Roma
Chievo	vs	Milan
Empoli	vs	Parma
Inter	vs	Reggina
Lazio	vs	Perugia
Lecce	vs	Sampdoria
Modena	vs	Juventus
Udinese	vs	Siena

## SERIE A

Sampdoria 2 Empoli 0, Brescia 0 Bologna 0, Inter Milan 3 Ancona 0, Juventus 4 Udinese 1, Parma 0 AC Milan 0, Perugia 2 Lecce 2, Reggina 1 Modena 1, Siena 1 Chievo Verona 2, Roma 2 Lazio 0.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1 Juventus	9	7	2	0	23	9	23
2 Roma	9	6	3	0	18	3	21
3 Milan	9	6	3	0	16	4	21
4 Parma	9	5	3	1	16	9	18
5 Inter Milan	9	4	4	1	11	5	16
6 Lazio	9	5	1	3	15	12	16
7 Chievo	9	4	2	3	12	10	14
8 Modena	9	4	2	3	10	8	14
9 Sampdoria	9	3	3	3	9	10	12
10 Udinese	9	3	2	4	12	13	11
11 Siena	9	2	4	3	11	9	10
12 Reggina	9	1	6	2	10	13	9
13 Brescia	9	1	4	4	14	20	7
14 Lecce	9	2	1	6	11	21	7
15 Bologna	9	1	3	5	9	13	6
16 Perugia	9	0	6	3	11	18	6
17 Ancona	9	0	3	6	4	18	3
18 Empoli	9	0	2	7	5	22	2



Roma striker Francesco Totti (left) is fouled by Lazio defender Jaap Stam.

## SERIE B

Albinoleffe 0 Piacenza 0, Ascoli 1 Atalanta 1, Bari 1 Messina 3, Catania 0 Palermo 2, Como 1 Cagliari 3, Napoli 0 Salernitana 0, Pescara 0 Livorno 0, Ternana 3 Fiorentina 2, Treviso 2 Triestina 1, Venezia 2 Torino 1, Verona 2 Avellino 2, Vicenza 0 Genoa 0.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1. Atalanta	13	7	6	0	19	-8	27
2. Ternana	13	8	2	3	21	-13	26
3. Palermo	13	7	5	1	16	-8	26
4. Livorno	13	6	5	2	16	-11	23
5. Cagliari	13	6	3	4	26	-15	21
6. Catania	13	6	3	4	21	-16	21
7. Torino	13	6	2	5	20	-15	20
8. Treviso	13	5	5	3	14	-13	20
9. Piacenza	13	5	5	3	11	-11	20
10. Messina	13	4	6	3	17	-17	18
11. Fiorentina	13	4	5	4	11	-11	17
12. Triestina	13	4	4	5	18	-21	16
13. Albinoleffe	13	4	4	5	14	-18	16
14. Ascoli	13	4	4	5	13	-17	16
15. Verona	13	3	6	4	19	-19	15
16. Venezia	13	3	6	4	13	-16	15
17. Pescara	13	3	6	4	12	-15	15
18. Salernitana	13	3	5	5	9	-13	14
19. Vicenza	13	2	7	4	11	-12	13
20. Napoli	13	1	10	2	9	-12	13
21. Genoa	13	3	4	6	11	-17	13
22. Bari	13	2	4	7	17	-22	10
23. Avellino	13	1	5	7	14	-19	8
24. Como	13	2	2	9	8	-21	8





# ENGLISH



## CHELSEA .....5 NEWCASTLE UNITED ...0

Chelsea went on the rampage to make it 10 goals in their last three games without reply and maintain their title challenge. Newcastle were dead and buried in the first half after goals by Glen Johnson, Hernan Crespo and Frank Lampard, with a penalty after Newcastle's Andy O'Brien felled Adrian Mutu and was sent off.

Damien Duff scored the best goal of the game when he collected a poor Shay Given clearance, beat his man and cracked home the fourth after 78 minutes and Eidur Gudjohnsen headed the fifth six minutes from time.

## LIVERPOOL .....1 MANCHESTER UNITED ..2

After a dull first half the match sprang into life in the second half when Ryan Giggs's 59th-minute free kick from the left eluded everyone and found its way into the corner of the net.

Liverpool keeper Jerzy Dudek, who had a nightmare the last time the two teams met at Anfield, probably should also have done better with Giggs's second, a fierce shot from a tight angle that went through the Pole.

Liverpool surged back, with Harry Kewell making it 2-1 and Emile Heskey could have squared it all up in stoppage time had his standing foot not slipped at the vital moment.

## MANCHESTER CITY ....0 LEICESTER CITY .....3

Leicester recorded their first away league win of the season in style to move out of the drop zone and up to 15th in the table. Jordan Stewart fired them in front after 12 minutes and Paul Dickov's penalty eight minutes into the second half made it 2-0.

Kevin Keegan's side looked out of sorts and they were killed off five minutes later when Marcus Bent headed home powerfully.

## ARSENAL .....2 TOTTENHAM .....1

Arsenal remained top of the ladder after coming from behind to beat their stubborn north London rivals.

Former England international Darren Anderton stunned the Highbury crowd after five minutes, reacting first to a ricochet to poke a shot past Jens Lehmann.

Tottenham, without a win at Highbury for 10 years, clung on desperately until the 69th minute when Robert Pires tapped home after a great save by Kasey Keller.

Freddie Ljungberg clinched the points when his deflected shot looped over a stranded Keller.



Wolverhampton's Jody Rae (right) sends in a shot on goal as a Birmingham City player watches on.

## ASTON VILLA .....0 MIDDLESBROUGH .....2

Resurgent Middlesbrough climbed into mid-table with an emphatic 0-2 victory at Villa Park.

Boro went ahead just past the half hour mark as Dutchman Boudewijn Zenden headed home Franck Queudrue's cross.

Zenden, who is on loan from Chelsea, then won a penalty four minutes after the break which was converted by Michael Ricketts.

## BOLTON .....0 SOUTHAMPTON .....0

Another inspired display by Jay-Jay Okocha failed to earn the points for Bolton who were left frustrated by Saints goalkeeper Antti Niemi.

Temper flared in the final five minutes when Southampton's Michael Svensson was sent off after a theatrical fall from Bolton's Mario Jardel. The Brazilian was then booked himself for pushing Graeme Le Saux in the resulting melee.

## CHARLTON .....3 FULHAM .....1

In the round's second London derby Charlton Athletic moved into fourth position with an impressive 3-1 home victory.

Graham Stuart put Charlton ahead after 10 minutes of a lively game before Jonatan Johansson wrapped up the points with a well-taken double in the 69th and 76th minutes.

Sean Davis grabbed a later consolation for Fulham.

## PORTSMOUTH .....6 LEEDS UTD .....1

After a power failure delayed the start there was no shortage of spark on the pitch at Fratton Park as Leeds crashed to their heaviest ever premier league defeat.

There was little sign of the demolition to follow as Leeds' Alan Smith cancelled out Dejan Stefanovic's opener.

But Gary O'Neil restored Pompey's lead on the stroke of halftime and Leeds crumbled. Hayden Foxe, O'Neil, Patrik Berger and Yakubu Ayegbeni were all on target after the break to leave the ailing Yorkshire club rooted to the bottom.

## WOLVERHAMPTON .....1 BIRMINGHAM CITY ....1

A scrappy goal from Norway striker Steffen Iversen earned Wolves a point against their high-flying local rivals.

Iversen bundled the ball home in the 66th minute and almost snatched a late winner. That would have been hard on Birmingham who opened the scoring four minutes into the second half with a cool finish by Mikael Forssell.



## FIXTURES

Saturday 22nd  
November

Birmingham	v	Arsenal
Everton	v	Wolverhampton
Fulham	v	Portsmouth
Leeds	v	Bolton
Leicester	v	Charlton
Man Utd	v	Blackburn
Middlesbrough	v	Liverpool
Newcastle	v	Man City
Southampton	v	Chelsea
Tottenham	v	Aston Villa

## PREMIER LEAGUE

Chelsea 5 Newcastle Utd 0, Liverpool 1 Manchester Utd 2, Manchester City 0 Leicester City 3, Arsenal 2 Tottenham 1, Aston Villa 0 Middlesbrough 2, Bolton 0 Southampton 0, Charlton 3 Fulham 1, Portsmouth 6 Leeds Utd 1, Wolverhampton 1 Birmingham 1, (Blackburn vs Everton - Tuesday AEDT)

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Arsenal	12	9	3	0	25	10	30
Chelsea	12	9	2	1	26	9	29
Man Utd	12	9	1	2	23	7	28
Charlton	12	6	3	3	19	15	21
Birmingham	12	5	5	2	11	8	20
Man City	12	5	3	4	22	15	18
Fulham	12	5	3	4	22	18	18
Liverpool	12	5	2	5	18	14	17
Southampton	12	4	5	3	10	7	17
Newcastle	12	4	4	4	16	18	16
Portsmouth	12	4	3	5	17	16	15
Middlesbrough	12	4	2	6	11	15	14
Tottenham	12	3	3	6	11	16	12
Bolton	12	2	6	4	9	19	12
Leicester	12	3	2	7	19	21	11
Aston Villa	12	2	5	5	9	15	11
Everton	11	2	4	5	12	15	10
Wolverhampton	12	2	4	6	8	24	10
Blackburn	11	2	2	7	15	21	8
Leeds	12	2	2	8	11	31	8

## FIRST DIVISION

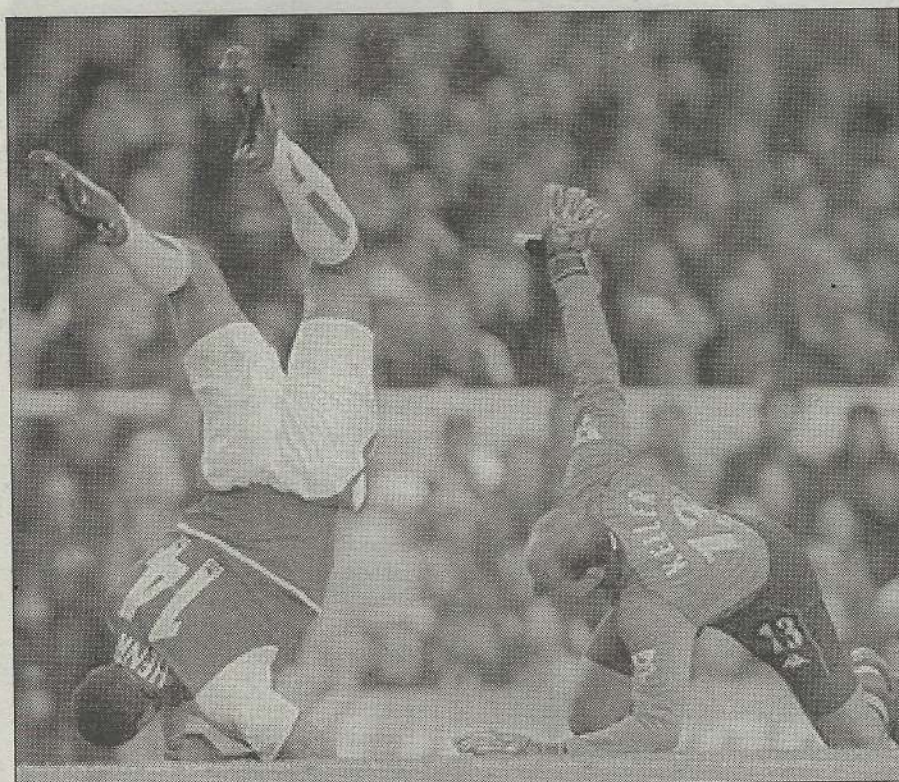
Bradford 1 Walsall 1, Cardiff 3 Stoke 1, Crystal Palace 1 Preston 1, Derby 2 Ipswich 2, Gillingham 2 Crewe 0, Norwich 3 Millwall 1, Notts Forest 1 Watford 1, Reading 1 Wigan 0, Rotherham 3 Wimbledon 1, Sheffield Utd 1 Burnley 0, Sunderland 0 Coventry 0, West Ham 3 West Bromwich 4.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
West Brom	17	11	2	4	27	16	35
Sheff Utd	18	10	4	4	29	18	34
Norwich	17	10	4	3	27	17	34
Wigan	18	9	6	3	26	14	33
Sunderland	18	9	5	4	22	12	32
West Ham	17	7	7	3	22	15	28
Ipswich	18	8	4	6	34	28	28
Cardiff	17	7	6	4	30	17	27
Preston	18	8	3	7	26	21	27
Reading	17	8	3	6	24	19	27
Millwall	18	7	6	5	22	19	27
Notts Forest	18	7	4	7	30	24	25
Crewe	18	7	3	8	18	23	24
Walsall	18	6	5	7	23	21	23
Coventry	17	5	7	5	22	22	22
Gillingham	18	6	4	8	21	29	22
Watford	18	5	5	8	19	23	20
Burnley	17	5	5	7	24	30	20
Stoke	17	4	5	8	20	25	17
Crystal Palace	17	4	5	8	21	30	17
Rotherham	18	3	7	8	13	27	16
Derby	18	3	6	9	18	33	15
Bradford	18	3	5	10	16	28	14
Wimbledon	17	3	1	13	18	41	10

## SECOND DIVISION

Brentford 2 Barnsley 1, Bristol City 1 Luton Town 1, Chesterfield 1 Port Vale 0, Notts County 1 Hartlepool Utd 0, Peterborough 2 Brighton & Hove 2, Plymouth 2 Oldham 2, Rushden 3 Grimsby 1, Sheff Wed 0 Blackpool 1, Stockport 1 QPR 2, Swindon 2 Wycombe 0, Tranmere 1 Bournemouth 1, Wrexham 0 Colchester 1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Plymouth	17	8	7	2	38	20	31
Barnsley	17	8	5	4	22	20	29
QPR	16	7	7	2	27	13	28
Brighton	17	8	4	5	26	18	28
Bournemouth	17	7	7	3	24	18	28
Colchester	17	8	4	5	21	20	28
Port Vale	17	8	3	6	24	23	27
Hartlepool	17	6	7	4	28	21	25
Bristol City	17	5	9	3	19	14	24
Swindon	17	6	6	5	25	21	24
Sheff Wed	17	6	6	5	22	20	24
Wrexham	16	7	3	6	19	17	24
Rushden & D'monds	17	7	3	7	29	29	24
Luton	17	6	5	6	29	31	23
Brentford	16	7	2	7	20	24	23
Oldham	17	5	7	5	29	28	22
Grimsby	17	6	4	7	21	25	22
Blackpool	16	6	3	7	22	26	21
Tranmere	17	4	7	6	18	26	19
Notts County	17	4	4	9	16	27	16
Stockport	17	3	6	8	20	29	15
Peterborough	17	2	8	7	20	26	14
Chesterfield	17	2	6	9	13	24	12
Wycombe	17	2	5	10	19	31	11
Wycombe	17	2	5	10	19	31	11

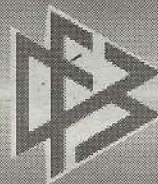


Arsenal's Thierry Henry (left) lands on his head after colliding with Tottenham goalkeeper Kasey Keller.





# German Bundesliga



**B**undesliga leaders Stuttgart continued their impressive run with a comfortable 2-0 victory at lowly Eintracht Frankfurt.

First-half goal from Hungary striker Imre Szabics and another after the break courtesy of Germany forward Kevin Kuranyi helped the southerners remain unbeaten 12 games into the season.

Champions Bayern Munich shook off a looming crisis with a crushing 4-1 home win over 10-man Borussia Dortmund. Bayern were denied four times by the woodwork before playmaker Michael Ballack put them in the lead with a header from a free-kick in the 27th minute.

Dortmund had midfielder Markus Brzenska sent off for a second booking shortly before the break but still managed to level, Czech striker Jan Koller exploiting a defensive blunder from Bixente Lizarazu in the 49th minute.

Bayern responded a few seconds later with France defender Willy Sagnol heading home to renew their lead. Bosnia midfielder Hasan Salihamidzic put the issue beyond doubt after 72



Hamburg's Stefan Beinlich (right) stretches out to poke the ball away from 1860's Roman Tyce.

Hansa Rostock, who had gone eight games without a win, woke up in style with a 4-0 thumping of Kaiserslautern thanks to a brace from Italian striker Antonio di Salvo and one each from midfielder Rene Rydlewicz and striker Martin Max.

Hamburg won their first Bundesliga match under new coach Klaus Toppmoller with a 3-1 victory over 1860 Munich.

The first match for new Cologne coach Marcel Koller was a nightmare with his team going down 4-0 at Bochum.

Leverkusen 3 Schalke 1, Bayern Munich 4 Dortmund 1, Eintracht Frankfurt 0 Stuttgart 2, Hanover 1 Werder Bremen 5, Freiburg 3 Wolfsburg 2, Hertha 2 M'gladbach 1, Rostock 4 Kaiserslautern 0, Hamburg 3 1860 Munich 1, Bochum 4 Cologne 0.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1 Stuttgart	12	9	3	0	19	2	30
2 Leverkusen	12	9	2	1	26	8	29
3 Bremen	12	9	1	2	34	16	28
4 Bayern	12	7	3	2	29	16	24
5 Dortmund	12	7	1	4	23	17	22
6 Bochum	12	6	3	3	24	13	21
7 Wolfsburg	12	6	0	6	25	23	18
8 1860 München	12	5	2	5	13	16	17
9 Freiburg	12	4	3	5	18	22	15
10 Hannover	12	4	3	5	21	28	15
11 Schalke	12	3	5	4	15	19	14
12 Hamburg	12	3	3	6	14	25	12
13 Kaiserslautern	12	4	2	6	13	20	11
14 Hertha	12	2	5	5	10	21	11
15 Hansa	12	2	3	7	16	21	9
16 Eintracht	12	2	2	8	9	19	8
17 M'gladbach	12	1	4	7	8	18	7
18 Köln	12	2	1	9	9	22	7

## FIXTURES

### Saturday 22nd November

Wolfsburg	vs	M'gladbach
Kaiserslautern	vs	Hertha Berlin
Freiburg	vs	E.Frankfurt
VFB Stuttgart	vs	Hannover
Werder Bremen	vs	Bochum
FC Cologne	vs	Hamburg SV
1860 Munich	vs	B.München
B.Dortmund	vs	B.Leverkusen
Schalke	vs	Hansa Rostock

minutes, also with a header, and substitute striker Claudio Pizarro wrapped it up from close range in added time.

Bayer Leverkusen beat 10-man Schalke 3-1 to move back into second.

An early goal from Bulgaria striker Dimitar Berbatov gave Leverkusen the lead but Mike Hanke cancelled it out with a header on 13 minutes.

Croatia midfielder Marko Babic put Leverkusen back in front with a deflected free kick in the 24th minute.

Werder Bremen continued its run of good form with a spectacular 5-1 win at Hanover featuring

two goals each from young Paraguayan striker Nelson Valdez and Croatian forward Ivan Klasnic.

It was the third straight win for the northerners and their fifth victory away from home this season.

Hanover were 3-0 down when Czech striker Jiri Stajner pulled one back after a brilliant solo run 10 minutes into the second-half.

Freiburg bounced back from three defeats in a row with a 3-2 victory over Wolfsburg, courtesy of Georgian striker Alexander Iaschvili, who celebrated his 100th Bundesliga game with a hat-trick.

Hertha Berlin recorded their first home win of the season with a 2-1 defeat of Moenchengladbach



# Spanish Primera Liga



**H**apless Real Madrid suffered an extraordinary 4-1 defeat away to Sevilla to leave Deportivo Coruna top of the table in Spain.

Real found themselves 3-0 down inside 15 minutes against Sevilla with an Ivan Helguera own goal and excellent strikes from Dario Silva and Daniel Alves.

Javi Casquero crashed in a fourth eight minutes before halftime to leave the reigning league champions reeling. Ronaldo pulled one back with a drilled shot 10 minutes into the second half but there was to be no heroic comeback and the sending off of Guti six minutes from time completed a miserable night for the reigning champions.

Valencia lost the league leadership with a sloppy 1-2 home defeat against Santander. Racing's opening goal arrived after 23 minutes when Carlos Marchena's poor touch on the edge of his own penalty area allowed Rodolfo Bodipo to steal in and thread a shot past Santiago Canizares.



Barcelona's player Patrick Kluivert shows some fancy footwork to get around Betis player Marcos Assun.

Valencia hit back when Ruben Baraja got the sweetest of touches on a Jorge Lopez free kick to beat goalkeeper Ricardo at his near post but Bodipo converted a cut-back from Mario Regueiro early in the second half to clinch the points.

Deportivo Coruna recovered from their Champions League drubbing by Monaco with a fortunate victory over Real Sociedad courtesy of two Igor Jauregi own goals.

Deportivo conceded an early as Nihat Kahveci scored for Sociedad midway through the first half. Jauregi turned a Joan Capdevila cross past his goalkeeper Sander Westerveld after 72 minutes, though, and the unfortunate defender got the final touch on a glancing Walter Pandiani header two minutes from time to hand Depor the win.

Athletic Bilbao recorded an uninspiring 1-0 win at

home to bottom club Espanyol Bilbao's victory, which came via an early goal from Andoni Iraola, spoiled the homecoming for former Athletic coach Luis Fernandez, who replaced Javier Clemente in charge at Espanyol in mid-week.

Celta's indifferent domestic form continued as they were held to a 1-1 draw by disciplined Real Zaragoza.

Celta took the lead after just four minutes thanks to a headed goal from Jose Ignacio however Zaragoza hit back five minutes later with a crashing volley from Leonardo Ponzio.

Mallorca climbed out of the relegation places with an excellent 4-1 win over Murcia.

Osasuna slipped down a couple of places in the table after drawing 1-1 with Valladolid in a scrappy game.

Fernando Sales gave Valladolid the lead just before the half-hour but a double sending-off changed the game after 42 minutes.

Osasuna's Moha and Valladolid's Jesus both saw red for a touchline altercation and the home side equalised on the stroke of half-time as Valdo headed in a cross from the right.

Barcelona did just enough to claim a 2-1 win over Betis despite losing Ronaldinho early in the game through injury.

Patrick Kluivert took advantage of a dreadful mistake from Betis keeper Paco Contreras to open the scoring three minutes before halftime, the Dutchman tapping into an empty net after the keeper had inexplicably failed to gather.

Fernando equalised in the 53rd minute after a similar error from Victor Valdes but seven minutes from time Rafael Marquez headed in from a Xavi corner to clinch the win for Barca.

Alvaro Novo got the only goal 10 minutes into the second half as Atletico downed Villarreal 1-0 to record their fifth successive league victory.

Malaga claimed their second away win of the season and left Albacete in the relegation places thanks to Salva Ballesta's finish from a Duda cross after 63 minutes.

Real Zaragoza 1 Celta Vigo 1, Deportivo 2 Real Sociedad 1, Bilbao 1 Espanyol 0, Albacete 0 Malaga 1, Atletico Madrid 1 Villarreal 0, Barcelona 2 Real Betis 1, Osasuna 1 Valladolid 1, Real Mallorca 4 Murcia 1, Sevilla 4 Real Madrid 1, Valencia 1 Santander 2.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1 Deportivo	11	8	1	2	21	9	25
2 Valencia	11	7	2	2	22	7	23
3 Real Madrid	11	7	2	2	24	13	23
4 Barcelona	11	5	4	2	16	11	19
5 Atlético	11	6	1	4	14	13	19
6 Osasuna	11	5	3	3	13	9	18
7 Racing	11	5	2	4	15	12	17
8 Athletic	11	5	2	4	13	12	17
9 Málaga	11	5	1	5	13	14	16
10 Valladolid	11	4	3	4	15	19	15
11 Sevilla	11	3	6	2	16	14	15
12 Villarreal	11	3	5	3	11	12	14
13 Betis	11	3	4	4	14	15	13
14 Real Sociedad	11	3	4	4	13	16	13
15 Zaragoza	11	3	3	5	9	11	12
16 Celta	11	2	5	4	14	15	11
17 Mallorca	11	3	2	6	13	21	11
18 Albacete	11	3	0	8	10	16	9
19 Murcia	11	1	4	6	8	20	7
20 Espanyol	11	1	2	8	8	23	5

## FIXTURES

### Sunday 23rd November

Murcia	vs	Valencia
R Sociedad	vs	Mallorca
Betis	vs	Deportivo
Villarreal	vs	Barcelona
Valladolid	vs	Atlético
Málaga	vs	Osasuna
R Madrid	vs	Albacete
Espanyol	vs	Sevilla
Celta	vs	Athletic
Racing	vs	Zaragoza





## Dutch Eredivisie

**A**jax Amsterdam recovered from their Champions League defeat at Celta Vigo with a 4-1 victory at struggling ADO Den Haag to stay top of the Dutch first division.

ADO took an early lead when Roy Stroeve scored after 17 minutes, but 15 minutes later there was an equaliser from Ajax central defender John Heitinga, back on duty after more than a year out with a bad knee injury.

Wesley Sneijder made it 2-1 for Ajax on 47 minutes and strikes from Zlatan Ibrahimovic (62) and Victor Sikora sealed the points.

Heitinga's day turned sour in the 60th minute when he received a second yellow card and was sent off.

Dirk Kuijt gave fourth-placed Feyenoord an early lead with a fourth-minute penalty at Volendam, but three minutes later left winger Hoessein Ouhssaine levelled the score.

Feyenoord then struggled against the young, enthusiastic Volendam squad, but nine minutes before the end substitute Robin van Persie restored the Rotterdam lead and Kuijt settled the issue with his second goal five minutes later.

There was another fine comeback for eighth-placed Groningen who trailed 2-0 at halftime to NEC Nijmegen but goals from Sander van Gessel, Brian Pinas and full-back Antoine van der Linden gave the visitors a thrilling 3-2 win.

AZ Alkmaar continues to pursue Ajax following their 2-1 win at struggling NAC Breda.

Kenneth Perez, called up last week for the first time for international duty with Denmark, grabbed the winner on the hour.

Ali Boussaboun opened the scoring for NAC after 39 minutes, but AZ struck back two minutes later through Belgian youngster Stijn Huysegems.

Perez, part of the 20-man Danish squad for a friendly against England next weekend, made sure of the three points.

PSV Eindhoven slipped to third after being held 1-1 at home to RBC Roosendaal.

PSV took the lead after only five minutes when RBC defender Robert Molenaar scored an own goal.

Still without the internationals

Mark van Bommel, Mateja Kezman (both suspended) and Johan Vogel (injured) Eindhoven struggled and 15 minutes from time substitute Ode Thompson beat goalkeeper Ronald Waterreus from close range to level the match.

Roda JC came from behind to record a 2-1 win at home to Twente Enschede.

Chris van der Weerden put the visitors ahead on 15 minutes but Roda defender Ger Sender equalised 10 minutes later and with two minutes left Greek Yannis Anastasiou snatched the winner.

Vitesse Arnhem are still looking for their first home win of the season after they could only manage a 2-2 draw with Willem II.

Emile Mbamba gave the home side the perfect start after seven minutes but their advantage was cancelled out only three minutes later by James Quinn's penalty, and Tom Caluwe's 24th-minute strike gave the visitors a half-time lead.

Jhon van Beukering levelled matters with a penalty 13 minutes after the break, but he then undid his good work by being sent off after 69 minutes.



**Ajax star Zlatan Ibrahimovic got on the score-sheet in his side's four-one victory over Den Haag.**

Vitesse Arnhem 2 Willem II 2, NAC Breda 1 Alkmaar 2, PSV Eindhoven 1 Roosendaal 1, Roda JC 2 Twente Enschede 1, ADO Den Haag 1 Ajax 4, Utrecht 1 RKC Waalwijk 0, Volendam 1 Feyenoord 3, NEC 2 Groningen 3.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1 Ajax	11	9	1	1	33	13	28
2 Alkmaar	11	8	1	2	24	9	25
3 PSV	11	7	3	1	27	10	24
4 Feyenoord	11	6	3	2	21	14	21
5 Roda	11	4	5	2	17	11	17
6 Roosendaal	11	4	4	3	11	11	16
7 Heerenveen	11	5	1	5	11	12	16
8 Groningen	11	4	3	4	16	19	15
9 Utrecht	11	4	3	4	12	15	15
10 Willem II	11	4	3	4	14	21	15
11 Waalwijk	11	4	1	6	15	16	13
12 Twente	11	4	1	6	19	23	13
13 NEC	11	4	0	7	13	20	12
14 NAC	11	3	2	6	15	16	11
15 Volendam	11	2	4	5	15	22	10
16 Den Haag	11	2	3	6	10	23	9
17 Vitesse	11	1	5	5	17	22	8
18 Zwolle	11	1	3	7	6	19	6

## Danish League

**E**sbjerg climbed to the top of the SAS Ligaen on goal difference with a comfortable 2-0 win at home to Herfølge.

A second-half brace from Tommy Bechmann (52, 80) proved decisive as Esbjerg jump above rivals Brøndby, who could only manage a 2-2 draw in the crunch match at third placed FC Copenhagen.

Brøndby fell behind with just 11 minutes on the clock through Sibusiso Zuma, but they managed to draw level two minutes into the second half thanks to a Morten Wieghorst effort.

The capital side regained the initiative with Zuma bagging his second of the match (55), but a late Andreas Jakobsson strike 11 minutes from time earned the hosts a point.

Odense BK condemned bottom of the table AB Copenhagen to their 14th defeat of the season

with a close-fought 1-0 win.

A solitary strike from Mwape Miti just on the hour mark was enough to earn the home side the spoils.

AaB battled out a thrilling 3-3 draw at home to FC Nordsjaelland.

Tommy Olsen put the visitors in front (17) but a penalty from Stefan Schmidt drew AaB level on 21.

Denni Conteh regained the lead for Nordsjaelland in a topsy-turvy match, and Carsten Fredgaard extended their advantage to give the away side a two-goal cushion.

However, the hosts fought back and goals from Mads Bro Hansen (75) and Christian Lundberg (77) clinched a dramatic point.

Elsewhere, Viborg and Frem proved inseparable as they both claimed a point with a goalless draw.



**Aussie striker Saso Petrovski is on the verge of returning to Australia from Danish side Viborg in December.**

Esbjerg 2 Herfølge 0, Viborg 0 Frem 0, Brøndby 2 FC Copenhagen 2, AaB 3 Nordsjaelland 3, Odense 1 AB Copenhagen 0, AGF 2 Midtjylland 1.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1 Esbjerg	17	12	3	2	32	14	39
2 Brøndby	17	12	3	2	29	11	39
3 København	17	9	5	3	25	14	32
4 OB	17	9	4	4	35	23	31
5 AaB	17	7	5	5	24	21	26
6 Midtjylland	17	7	2	8	29	25	23
7 AGF	17	7	1	9	26	36	22
8 Viborg	17	5	5	7	30	27	20
9 Herfølge	17	4	5	8	17	23	17
10 Nordsjaelland	17	3	6	8	21	33	15
11 Frem	17	4	2	11	17	32	14
12 AB Copenhagen	17	2	1	14	11	37	7

## Scottish Premier League

**W**ales striker John Hartson warmed up for next week's Euro 2004 playoff games with Russia by scoring twice as Celtic crushed Dunfermline Athletic 5-0.

Hartson was on target after 23 and 77 minutes to crack Dunfermline's resistance before Ross Wallace, Stanislav Varga and Henrik Larsson completed the rout in the final 10 minutes.

Celtic remain unbeaten at the top with 34 points from 12 games.

Despite the winning margin, Martin O'Neill's side looked unconvincing for long spells at Celtic Park before finding their form, and the net, late on.

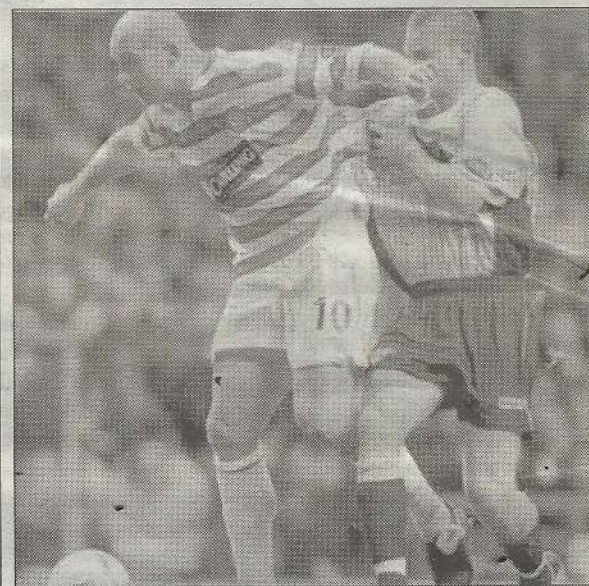
off the bench to keep Rangers' title hopes alive with a late winner in the 3-2 victory at Kilmarnock.

Rangers led through Shota Arveladze but had to reply to goals from Gary McDonald and Peter Canero.

Arveladze netted an equaliser to set up a remarkable finish to an entertaining game.

The crucial moment came when Frederic Dindeleux fouled Peter Lovenkrands just outside the box on the left and Mikel Arteta swung the free-kick on to the head of Capucho at the back post for the winner four minutes from time.

Hearts left Aberdeen with three points after a first-half goal from Andy Kirk amid chaotic scenes.



**Celtic striker John Hartson prepares to shoot at goal while holding off a Dunfermline Athletic player**

Hartson scored the opener from Didier Agathe's cross on 23 minutes and slipped in his team's second, which looked offside, with 13 minutes of the game remaining.

The floodgates then opened with young substitute winger Wallace tormenting the visitors to net the third on 81 minutes and then turning supplier for Varga's headed fourth two minutes later.

Larsson popped up to grab the fifth when he slammed the ball into the net from an almost impossible angle on 87 minutes.

Dunfermline, who drew 0-0 with Celtic in their league opener in August, remain the only side to have taken points from them this term.

Substitute Nuno Capucho came

The hosts ended the match with nine men, after Steven Tosh and Australian David Zdrilic were ordered off.

Dundee United were cruelly robbed of three points at Hibernian after conceding a last-minute own goal from David McCracken.

At Dens Park, Dundee suffered a disappointing 1-0 loss at home to Motherwell.

The injury-hit Tayside club have enjoyed a good start to the campaign but could not break down Terry Butcher's side and conceded a Steven Craig goal early in the second half.

The pressure on Partick manager Gerry Collins continued to grow as Livingston posted a 2-0 win at Almondvale.

Aberdeen 0 Hearts 1, Kilmarnock 2 Rangers 3, Celtic 5 Dunfermline 0, Dundee 0 Motherwell 1, Livingston 2 Partick Thistle 0, Dundee Utd 2 Hibernian 2.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1 Celtic	12	11	1	0	38	3	34
2 Rangers	12	9	2	1	33	11	29
3 Hearts	12	7	2	3	19	15	23
4 Motherwell	11	5	3	3	14	12	18
5 Dundee	12	4	4	4	14	13	16
6 Livingston	12	4	4	4	13	13	16
7 Hibernian	12	4	4	4	14	17	16
8 Dunfermline	11	4	3	4	10	15	15
9 Kilmarnock	12	3	2	7	14	28	11
10 Dundee United	12	2	4	6	9	21	10
11 Aberdeen	12	2	1	9	9	24	7
12 Partick	12	0	2	10	9	24	2





## French Ligue 1

**P**aris-St Germain kept in touch with Ligue 1 leaders Monaco thanks to a 1-0 win at Nantes on a strange weekend involving a power cut, a player sent off in the tunnel at halftime and the first win for bottom side Le Mans.

Fabrice Fiorese scored the only goal of the match, showing good control outside the penalty area before firing home a fierce half volley.

shone less this time as Monaco were brought down to the harsh reality of Ligue 1.

But Ajaccio, who had defended bravely for 82 minutes, finally yielded after a gross defensive blunder which Prso perfectly exploited.

Djibril Cisse scored twice as Auxerre beat lowly En Avant Guingamp 3-0 to overtake Bulgaria's Vladimir Manchev as the leading scorer in Ligue 1 with nine goals.

New Bordeaux coach Michel Pavon



Fabrice Fiorese (left) scores the only goal of the game as PSG defeated Nantes.

But PSG owed their three points to keeper Alonzo who pulled off at least four top-class saves.

Stade Rennes played the last quarter with nine men but managed to hold out for a 2-2 draw with Lille.

In a thrilling game at Rennes, their striker Frederic Piquionne was sent off at halftime for fighting with home supporters who had insulted him.

Rennes were 1-0 down at the time after Vladimir Manchev had made the most of slack marking to score in the 32nd minute.

Eight minutes into the second half Alexander Frei equalised with a shot that went in off the post and Stephane N'Guema put 10-man Rennes ahead with a crashing header.

Rennes were reduced to nine when midfielder Cyril Jeunechamp picked up his second yellow for getting involved in a scuffle.

Three minutes later Manchev fired his second, a volley from close in against a stretched Rennes defence. Manchev is now top scorer in the league with eight goals.

Le Mans managed to beat Metz 2-0 despite the floodlights failing.

Laurent Peyrelade scored in the 33rd minute with a header from a Fabrice Pancratre cross and Daniel Cousin added a second late.

Nice downed Bastia 2-0, Christophe Meslin the hero with a goal in each half.

Two goals from Peguy Luyindula helped Lyon shock title rivals Marseille 4-1.

Luyindula's goals, both scored from close range in each half, took Lyon's unbeaten run to eight games and three successive victories.

Elber scored the opener in the 18th minute two minutes before Belgian international Daniel van Buyten brought Marseille some brief relief. Fellow Brazilian Juninho sealed victory with an injury-time goal.

Croatia's Dado Prso saved the Ligue 1 leaders with a late goal in Monaco's 1-0 win at lowly Ajaccio.

The Croat, who scored four against Deportivo last week,

remained unbeaten in Ligue 1 since taking over two weeks ago as his men drew 1-1 at Racing Strasbourg.

Marouane Chamakh opened the scoring for the visitors seconds before the break. But the Moroccan-born striker was sent off in the 82nd minute and Strasbourg captain Corentin Martins equalised from the penalty spot.

Inconsistent Lens fought back from two goals down within 13 minutes to beat Montpellier 3-2.

The ninth minute opener from a free kick was lucky as the ball bounced on Bruno Carotti's backside and into goal. Jean-Christophe Rouviere made it two four minutes later after a fine one-two between Habib Bamogo and Rui Pataca.

French international Daniel Moreira saved Lens almost by himself with a 51st minute equaliser. He also set up John Utaka and Dagui Bakari for Lens's two other goals.

Nice 2 Bastia 0, Nantes 0 PSG 1, Le Mans 2 Metz 0, Stade Rennes 2 Lille 2, Ajaccio 0 Monaco 1, Auxerre 3 Guingamp 0, Lens 3 Montpellier 2, Sochaux 3 Toulouse 1, Strasbourg 1 Bordeaux 1, Marseille 1 Lyon 4.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1 Monaco	13	9	3	1	25	12	30
2 Lyon	13	8	3	2	27	9	27
3 Marseille	13	8	0	5	20	14	24
4 PSG	13	7	2	4	17	11	23
5 Lens	13	7	1	5	12	17	22
6 Sochaux	13	6	3	4	17	13	21
7 Auxerre	13	6	2	5	21	13	20
8 Nice	13	5	5	3	12	12	20
9 Strasbourg	13	5	4	4	18	15	19
10 Nantes	13	6	1	6	13	12	19
11 Montpellier	13	5	3	5	19	17	18
12 Bastia	13	5	3	5	16	18	18
13 Bordeaux	13	4	4	5	10	11	16
14 Rennes	13	3	6	4	11	11	15
15 Metz	13	4	2	7	11	13	14
16 Lille	13	3	5	5	13	17	14
17 Ajaccio	13	3	4	6	11	16	13
18 Guingamp	13	3	2	8	11	21	11
19 Toulouse	13	2	3	8	8	22	9
20 Mans	13	1	4	8	7	25	7

## Belgian Jupiler League

**A**nderlecht's unbeaten start to the season came to a crashing halt as an Alexandros Kaklamanos double helped condemn them to a 4-1 home defeat to rivals Standard Liege.

Kaklamanos started the scoring in the eighth minute, a lead which Belgian international Emile Mpenza doubled 10 minutes later.

Anderlecht, beaten 3-1 at Celtic in midweek in the Champions League, pulled one back in the 23rd minute when Martin Kolar netted, but it failed to spark a revival and two more goals in the second half won it for Standard. Jonathan Walasiak made it three nine minutes into the second half before Kaklamanos grabbed his second and completed the scoring. The result means Standard Liege are now six points behind Anderlecht after 12 matches.

Club Brugge moved into fourth after edging out Charleroi 1-0 thanks to Philippe Clement goal in the 20th minute.

Mouscron missed the chance to move into third place in the Jupiler League after being held to a 1-1 draw at Westerlo. They went ahead after 22 minutes when Steve Dugardin curled his free-kick past Westerlo goalkeeper Jonathan Bourdon however the lead lasted just 15 minutes when David Paas feed Marc Wagenmakers who smashed in the equaliser.

Sint-Truiden held off a fast finishing Lierse to record a thrilling 3-2 victory. Marius Mitu gave the visitors the lead after 34 minutes from a corner but the home side levelled in the 57th minute when Kris Buvens netted at the far post.

A minute later they were ahead, Benjamin De Ceulaer's again causing havoc with his cross and Desire Mbonabucya was on hand to finish. Mbonabucya added his second to give the home side a two-goal cushion and despite Mitu grabbing his second of the game also with six minutes remaining, Sint-Truiden held on. Heusden earned only their second win of the season to move off the foot of the table with a 2-0 victory at home to Germinal Beerschot.

Goals from Mike Origi (43) and Dimitri De Conde (51) were enough for the hosts who moved above Charleroi but have a played a game more.

Meanwhile a second half brace from Constant Kaiper was enough to give Beveren a 2-0 win over fellow strugglers Mons.

Elsewhere, LA Louviere beat Lokeren 3-2 and Antwerp drew 2-2 at Cercle Brugge.

Gent 1 Genk 1, Heusden 2 Germinal Beerschot 0, Sint-Truiden 3 Lierse 2, Antwerp 2 Cercle Brugge 2, La Louviere 3 Lokeren 2, Westerlo 1 Mouscron 1, Anderlecht 1 Standard 4, Beveren 2 Mons 0, Club Brugge 1 Charleroi 0.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1 Anderlecht	12	10	1	1	33	10	31
2 Standard	12	8	1	3	24	10	25
3 Genk	12	7	3	2	25	15	24
4 Club Brugge	12	6	3	3	24	14	21
5 Mouscron	12	5	5	2	20	12	20
6 Sint-Truiden	12	5	4	3	18	16	19
7 Westerlo	12	5	4	3	17	18	19
8 La Louviere	12	4	6	2	19	13	18
9 AA Gent	12	3	7	2	14	12	16
10 Cercle Brugge	12	3	6	3	10	14	15
11 Lierse	12	3	5	4	14	16	14
12 G Beerschot	12	3	4	5	9	14	13
13 Beveren	12	4	0	8	13	25	12
14 Antwerp	12	3	2	7	10	25	11
15 Lokeren	12	2	3	7	14	23	9
16 Mons	12	1	6	5	10	19	9
17 Heusden	12	2	2	8	9	20	8
18 Charleroi	12	1	4	7	5	12	7



## FIFA WORLD RANKING

1 Brazil	834	1	0	1	0	51 Wales	558	50	-1	52	1
2 France	814	2	0	2	0	52 Côte d'Ivoire	555	59	7	64	12
3 Spain	762	2	-1	3	0	53 New Zealand	550	51	-2	49	-4
4 Argentina	754	5	1	5	1	54 Trinidad and Tobago	549	52	-2	47	-7
5 Netherlands	752	6	1	6	1	55 Slovakia	544	53	-2	55	0
6 Germany	745	4	-2	4	-2	55 Venezuela	544	63	8	69	14
7 Turkey	733	8	1	9	2	55 Austria	544	61	6	54	-1
8 England	727	7	-1	7	-1	58 Congo DR	541	65	7	65	7
9 United States	717	10	1	10	1	59 Iceland	538	70	11	58	-1
10 Czech Republic	712	13	3	15	5	59 Scotland	538	64	5	58	-1
11 Italy	711	12	1	13	2	61 Zimbabwe	536	55	-6	56	-5
11 Mexico	711	9	-2	8	-3	62 Estonia	534	61	-1	60	-2
13 Denmark	710	10	-3	12	-1	63 Cuba	532	56	-7	71	8
14 Ireland Republic	703	15	1	14	0	64 Iraq	531	56	-8	53	-11
15 Portugal	692	14	-1	11	-4	65 Thailand	529	59	-6	66	1
16 Cameroon	691	18	2	16	0	65 Guatemala	529	58	-7	78	13
17 Belgium	672	16	-1	17	0	67 Zambia	526	69	2	66	-1
18 Costa Rica	663	17	-1	21	3	68 Algeria	522	66	-2	68	0
18 Sweden	663	20	2	24	6	69 Ghana	513	67	-2	60	-9
20 Paraguay	657	19	-1	18	-2	70 Chile	510	73	3	84	14
21 Romania	652	27	6	24	3	70 China PR	510	68	-2	63	-7
22 Colombia	651	39	17	37	15	72 Burkina Faso	508	83	11	75	3
23 Norway	648	24	1	26	3	73 Mali	505	74	1	73	0
24 Japan	643	23	-1	22	-2	74 Qatar	499	71	-3	62	-12
24 Korea Republic	643	21	-3	20	-4	75 Bosnia-Herzegovina	495	72	-3	87	12
26 Croatia	640	26	0	32	6	76 Kenya	493	78	2	80	4
27 Serbia and Montenegro	636	22	-5	19	-8	77 Jordan	489	75	-2	77	0
28 Senegal	633	29	1	27	-1	78 Canada	482	77	-1	70	-8
29 Slovenia	628	36	7	36	7	79 Latvia	481	79	0	78	-1
30 Russia	627	25	-5	22	-8	80 Peru	480	81	1	82	2
31 Nigeria	626	32	1	29	-2	81 Angola	479	86	5	76	-5
31 Uruguay	626	28	-3	28	-3	82 Belarus	478	76	-6	74	-8
33 South Africa	619	31	-2	30	-3	83 Cyprus	474	88	5	80	-3
33 Greece	619	45	12	48	15	84 Haiti	473	80	-4	71	-13
33 Poland	619	29	-4	33	0	85 El Salvador	469	82	-3	94	9
36 Ecuador	616	33	-3	31	-5	86 Togo	468	92	6	85	-1
37 Morocco	613	38	1	35	-2	86 Georgia	468	84	-2	90	4
38 Bulgaria	612	35	-3	42	4	88 Albania	466	89	1	93	5
39 Egypt	606	44	5	39	0	89 Indonesia	465	84	-5	110	21
40 Switzerland	605	43	3	44	4	90 Macedonia FYR	461	93	3	85	-5
41 Iran	600	34	-7	33	-8	91 Kuwait	455	87	-4	83	-8
42 Honduras	596	37	-5	40	-2	91 Libya	455	97	6	104	13
42 Tunisia	596	40	-2	41	-1	93 Syria	445	90	-3	91	-2
44 Israel	593	40	-4	46	2	94 Barbados	442	94	0	99	5
45 Finland	585	45	0	43	-2	95 United Arab Emirates	439	90	-5	89	-6
46 Saudi Arabia	581	42	-4	38	-8	95 Vietnam SR	439	95	0	108	13
47 Ukraine	579	47	0	45	-2	95 Singapore	439	98	3	118	23
48 Jamaica	571	48	0	51	3	98 Liberia	438	96	-2	88	-10
49 Hungary	570	54	5	56	7	99 Lithuania	427	99	0	100	1
50 Australia	562	49	-1	50	0	100 Congo	423	100	0	97	-3



# Soccer00s 2003



Back Row  
(L-R) Mark Schwarzer, Steve Laybutt, Tony Vidmar, Mark Viduka, Josip Skoko.  
Front Row  
(L-R)  
Marco Bresciano, Kevin Muscat, Paul Okon ©, Harry Kewell, Lucas Neill, Scott Chipperfield.